

Search aircraft finds body off Grand Canary as sons take over media tycoon's empire

## Robert Maxwell dies at sea

By JAMIE DETTMER AND TIM JONES

ROBERT Maxwell was drowned yesterday after apparently falling overboard from his yacht while cruising around the Canary Islands. A body was found in waters off Grand Canary yesterday evening just as an air and sea search was being called off for the night.

The newspaper publisher was last seen strolling on deck at about 4.35am, but his absence was not noted for some six hours until he failed to answer a telephone call in his stateroom. The boat was searched three times before the coastguard was informed and a rescue operation launched.

Trading in his two main companies — Maxwell Communications Corporation and Mirror Group Newspapers — was suspended at the companies' request yesterday afternoon, and Mr Maxwell's sons, Kevin and Ian, were appointed acting chairmen. Ian had on Monday deputised for his father who had been due to give a speech to the Anglo-Jewish Association in London. Dr Elizabeth Maxwell told organisers half an hour before the event that her husband had been taken ill.

Dr Maxwell yesterday flew to Tenerife with her eldest son, Philip. He later went to Las Palmas to identify a body

### MAXWELL'S EMPIRE

How he built a business spanning the globe and the pressures that surrounded him in the past year. Page 2

THE FAMILY MAN  
The boy who fled Hitler to become a war hero, a Labour MP and a friend to world leaders. Page 3

THE PRESS BARON  
The man who saved the *Daily Mirror* and became one of Britain's most swashbuckling media giants. Page 16

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Los Cristianos in southwest Tenerife. It was not until 11am when Mr Maxwell failed to respond to a call from New York that Captain Gus Rankin became concerned. When the publisher's personal steward confirmed that he was not in the stateroom, the captain ordered three thorough searches of the boat. International rescue services were then alerted and the Lady Ghislaine retraced her voyage while helicopters, a fixed-wing aircraft and a surface vessel searched between Grand Canary and Tenerife.

A body was spotted by one of the aircraft at about 6pm and, after being winched aboard a helicopter, was taken to Gando airport in Las Palmas. The body was said to match Mr Maxwell's description and to bear a distinguishing scar near one of the eyes.

News of Mr Maxwell's disappearance was announced by the Mirror group at 3.14 yesterday afternoon after dealing in the company's shares had been suspended. Staff at the *Daily Mirror* were called together by Richard Stott, the paper's editor, and told that the proprietor was believed to have fallen overboard. At the same time, a telephone call to the Glasgow newsroom of the *Daily Record* was told: "We're having a panic meeting here. I can't speak."

Charles Wilson, editorial director of the Mirror group, said it was "pretty normal" for Mr Maxwell to be out on deck at 4.25am. "He was a light sleeper, often up and about throughout the night," he said.

Asked about recent controversies surrounding the publisher, Mr Wilson said: "What normal people consider pressure was meat and drink to Robert Maxwell. His last conversation that I can find was with his son, Ian, who spoke to him at 11 o'clock last night when they had a normal business and family conversation and he was in a perfectly good mood." Ernest Burroughs, the group's managing director, said Mr Maxwell had told him on Monday that he would be returning to England today.

Leading political and media figures reacted with shock and dismay to the news that Mr Maxwell was missing. John Major described him as "a great character" who had given him valuable insights into the Soviet Union during the attempted coup in August. The prime minister added: "I am sure he would not want us to grieve at his loss, but marvel at a quite extraordinary life lived to the full."

Neil Kinnock described Mr Maxwell, who was Labour MP for Buckingham from 1964 until 1970, as having great zest.

Anne Robinson, a senior columnist with the *Daily Mirror*, said journalists were shocked and quite unable to comprehend what had happened. Mr Maxwell's rival publisher, Rupert Murdoch, said: "Mr Maxwell was a remarkable man. My wife and I send our personal condolences to Mrs Maxwell and her family."



In command: Robert Maxwell and his wife Elizabeth on their motor yacht Lady Ghislaine, which was named after one of his daughters

## Shares suspended at year's low

By ANGELA MACKAY

SHARES in Maxwell Communication Corp and Mirror Group Newspapers were suspended on the stock exchange in mid-afternoon before it became public that Robert Maxwell, chairman of both companies, had disappeared at sea.

Initially, the market expected an announcement related to MCC's crippling debts, which exceed £1.3 billion, and plans to ease this burden by floating its American businesses. However, ten minutes later, a statement from MCC said the chairman's disappearance had caused the suspension.

When the shares ceased

trading, they were at their lowest levels for the year. This reflected growing concern about how Mr Maxwell was going to meet his debts and news that, earlier in the day, one of his bankers, Goldman Sachs, had sold some of its stake in MCC.

Two of Mr Maxwell's sons were appointed acting chairmen of the companies — Kevin to MCC and Ian to Mirror Group — to calm investors and ensure a smooth succession.

Stockbrokers said that, when the suspensions were lifted, they expected MCC's value to drop sharply in case Mr Maxwell's death meant his finances were in worse shape than the market had forecast.

Mirror Group would fare better, they suggested, because it was more remote from the master company. It is, however, 51 per cent controlled by Robert Maxwell Holdings, a private Maxwell company, which is also laden with debt. MCC has been selling assets during the year, but needed the cash injection a flotation in America would provide to make sure it met its next debt payment of \$750 million.

One of Mr Maxwell's biggest problems with the market had been a credibility gap, illustrated by the long lead time heralding the flotation of Mirror Group. He originally announced his plan in January 1985, shelved it in December 1988, put it back on the agenda in April 1989 and said he would complete the deal by the end of last year.

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### TODAY IN THE TIMES

#### CLUB SNUBS



Women? In the club? "There is drinking and pranks and it can be rowdy, with judges sliding down banisters." So says a male club member. But can women make political progress without belonging? Page 15

#### PUNK LEGACY



Fifteen years after Johnny Rotten's heyday, a wave of punk nostalgia is with us, including an art exhibition by the man who did the Sex Pistols. Page 14

#### ON THE BUTTON



Charles Denton has emerged as favourite for the all-powerful new post of ITV's central scheduler, "a clear and obvious nightmare." Page 34

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Employers seeking chief executives, managers and other senior staff are advertising tomorrow in *The Times* 12-page appointments section, circulated in Britain.



## Ministers treading Maastricht tightrope

By MICHAEL BINYON AND ROBIN OAKLEY

GROWING British pessimism about the Maastricht summit in December is being reflected in ministerial attempts to talk down the prospects of achieving agreement on monetary and political union.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, attempted to lower expectations yesterday by saying that the most that could be hoped for at the European summit was a step forward. He said: "We cannot settle the final shape of Europe in four weeks' time."

Ministers are now treading an ever more tortuous tightrope, agreeing to a package in Maastricht which splits the

party could prove a heavy blow to Conservative hopes of winning the next election. But there are also fears that failure to achieve a deal would be successfully exploited by Labour, which would present itself as the more forward-looking pro-European party.

In a significant change in tack, ministers are therefore starting to sell the idea that no agreement would be better than the wrong agreement. But their problems of party management are now becoming acute, with pro-Europeans arguing that too much is being conceded to the Euro-sceptics for fear of what Norman Tebbit and Margaret Thatcher might do. Middle-of-the-road party loyalists who see themselves as "positive but not



Hurd: caricatures of Britain dismissed  
fanatical about Europe" are now demanding that their voice is heard as well as that of the more vehement factions. In the Commons yesterday

the prime minister stressed his continued determination to work for a European union agreement. He said: "When I get to Maastricht, if I judge the agreement is in the interests of this country, I will sign it." But he added, to some Tory cheers: "If I judge an agreement is not in the interests of this country, then it would not be right for me to sign it and I will not sign it."

Challenged by David Hinchliffe, the Labour MP, to say yes or no to whether he favoured a single European currency Mr Major replied: "At this moment, in these circumstances — no."

Downing Street later said this was because there was no convergence yet of EC economies and there was no final treaty text setting out the convergence requirements.

Mr Hurd warned yesterday in The Hague that any agreement achieved at Maastricht had to convince Parliament and the British people that it was good for individual states and for the Community as a whole. It must be workable and enduring.

Speaking to the Atlantic Commission, Mr Hurd dismissed what he called the "confusing caricatures" of Britain now circulating among its partners. He said thoroughness and thoughtfulness should not be mistaken for reluctance and rejection.

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Woodrow Wyatt, page 16

## Moscow provides turn-up for the Irish books

By EDWARD GORMAN  
IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

IRISH bookmakers from Co Cork are to open for business tomorrow at the "Million on Ice" hockey tournament in the Sports Dome outside Moscow. In the first venture of its kind, Paul Cashman and Martin Healy, who run a string of six betting shops in Cork city, have been invited by the Russian authorities to demonstrate Western-style betting at one of the biggest tournaments of the year. If their venture is successful, the Cork men believe there is potential for a large-scale, and very lucrative, association with the Russians.

Liam Cashman, Paul's father, said his son would spend about a week in Moscow. During his stay he and Mr

Healy would prepare a report for the authorities which would be considered in the preparation of new, more liberal, gambling laws. "The ice-hockey federation and government are very anxious to install a proper system for all sports — they want a Western betting system," Mr Cashman said, adding: "There are obvious opportunities for expansion. The Russians, like the Chinese, British and Irish, love a gamble."

He explained that most betting in Russia at present was between individuals on a one-to-one basis. There was only a single state tote system operating off-track at dog and horse meetings. Ice hockey was the only sport where gambling was legal, he said. The two Irish bookmakers will be

operating a relatively simple system at tomorrow's opening game of the tournament, which is expected to attract 10,000 fans a day. "We have had to bring the betting back to the 1960s basics to suit the Russians, who are 30 to 35 years behind us in some respects," Paul Cashman said.

The venture is the latest in a series of profitable Russian-Irish associations. Aer Rianna, the Irish airports authority, recently opened the first ever duty-free shop at Moscow airport, complete with a traditional "shamrock" Irish bar. The authority also holds a big contract to service and paint Aeroflot jets at Shannon airport.

A Romanov returns, page 13



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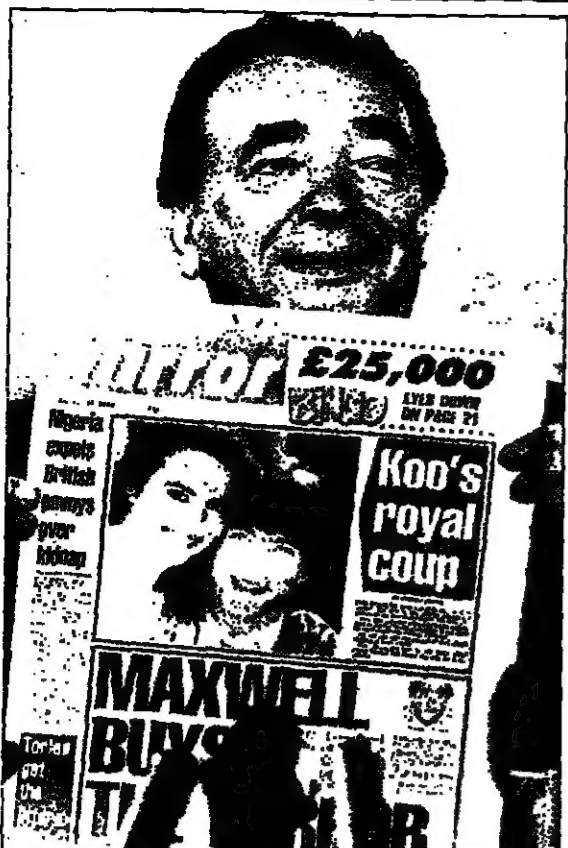


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## ROBERT MAXWELL: THE MAN AND HIS EMPIRE



July 13, 1984: Maxwell takes over at MGN



September 27, 1975: at Scottish Daily News press conference



May 11, 1990: heading for the European market



March 21, 1991: to the rescue of the New York Daily News



August 31, 1986: launching the European edition of China Daily



February 24, 1987: with the ill-fated LDN

## Business empire with a mixture of private and public interests

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT  
FINANCIAL EDITOR

SEVEN months ago, the heavily indebted Maxwell Communications Corporation sold Pergamon Press to a Dutch publishing group for £440 million. At the same time, Robert Maxwell announced that he would be standing down as chairman and chief executive of the company to concentrate on Mirror Group Newspapers and other private interests.

In the event, he stayed on as chairman, with his son Kevin as chief executive, but the decisions were a watershed in his remarkable and controversial career.

Pergamon Press was the unique creation of Mr Maxwell and the engine of his business fortunes. After his wartime exploits, Captain Maxwell, MC, found his niche in post-war Berlin, among the scientists, scientific papers and journals abandoned after the fall of the Third Reich. He

realised that a scientific tradition remained after a political empire had been lost and built a business empire by cornering the stocks of scientific journals and then the future output of the scientists, which he sold at high prices to universities and academic institutions.

Pergamon was floated on the stock exchange and grew rapidly, partly by acquisition, though Mr Maxwell lost an epic battle for the *News of the World* with Rupert Murdoch, who was to become his business rival, later buying the ailing *Sun*, which Mr Maxwell had also coveted.

In 1969, apparently disillusioned and pursuing a political career, Mr Maxwell agreed a £25 million takeover bid from Leasco, an American financial group. This was withdrawn and degenerated into recrimination after Pergamon profits were questioned. Mr Maxwell was ousted from his own company and sub-

### THE TYCOON

jected to an investigation by inspectors for the Department of Trade and Industry.

The inspectors found that Pergamon profits depended on transactions with Maxwell family private companies and, in a famous passage disputed by Mr Maxwell in a series of investigations, alleged that he was unfit to be in charge of a public company. The rump of Pergamon, which depended on its scientific authors, languished without its creator and Mr Maxwell eventually returned to lead Pergamon as a private company.

After bidding his time and restoring the fortunes of Pergamon, Mr Maxwell returned to public companies by accumulating a controlling interest in British Printing Corporation, the biggest magazine printing company in Britain, but had fallen into

heavy losses due to poor management and overmanaging. Mr Maxwell acted decisively to restore its fortunes.

The mixture of private and public interest soon reappeared, however. The Maxwell family interests, then ultimately traced back to an inpenetrable charitable trust in Liechtenstein, invested in more public companies in anything from heavy engineering to market research.

Mr Maxwell made his long-desired entrance into control of national newspapers in 1984 when Pergamon Press, still private, bought Mirror Group Newspapers from Reed International, a conglomerate that had hoped to float the *Daily* and *Sunday Mirror* and *The People* as a separate company. Mr Maxwell came in with a cash offer much larger than the flotation was likely to raise.

He completely changed MGN, cutting out layers of costs and introducing new

methods of colour printing ahead of his main rivals. As at British Printing, eventually renamed Maxwell Communications Corporation, profits responded rapidly, doubling from £27 million in 1983 to £53 million last year.

By then Mr Maxwell had set himself another goal, to build a world-scale publishing group. The original printing business was to be sold in favour of building up publishing interests.

After a costly move into international airline guides and some embarrassing false starts, MCC won an epic takeover struggle for Macmillan, an American publishing house that had expanded far beyond books into anything from business magazines to Berlitz language schools. The £2.6 billion deal, completed three years ago, was thought by many at the time to be too expensive.

The ensuing strain on the finances of MCC and of the entire Maxwell family empire, was, however, more immediately due to high interest rates and the fears of straitened bank lenders as a series of financial empires built from acquisition in those heady boom years subsided.

Since then, Mr Maxwell's priorities have been to sell assets and raise money whether through his public or private interests. The flotation of Mirror Group Newspapers in May at a value of about £500 million was one of the most crucial elements in this process. Its value to Mr Maxwell's family interests was far greater than it seemed in terms of the movement of loans as well as cash raised. However, the shares were soon shunned.

MGN is itself financially healthy, MCC has met its debt repayments, but the struggle for the future of the family's holdings was still being fought this autumn.

Brian MacArthur, page 16  
Obituary, page 18

## Debts grew and profits shrank

By MELINDA WITSTOCK  
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

ROBERT Maxwell had faced pressures in the past eight months few other businessmen could withstand without cracking. Huge debts threatened his global media empire, which had been built up against all odds, while unsubstantiated allegations linked him with the Israeli secret service Mossad.

But Mr Maxwell, a larger-than-life character, thrived on adversity. He survived Nazi persecution of the Jews in Eastern Europe and a major financial scandal which resulted in the Department of Trade and Industry reporting in 1971 that he "was not a person who can be relied on to exercise proper stewardship" of a public limited company. Charles Wilson, the former *Times* editor who is Mr Maxwell's editorial director, said yesterday: "What normal people consider pressure was meat and drink to Robert Maxwell."

Determination to create one of the world's ten largest media groups and a penchant for firing off writs to all and sundry had helped him to build an empire that Wall Street, the City and most media pundits agree is teetering on the brink. With debts at more than £1.35 billion, not including undisclosed debt to his web of private interests, Mr Maxwell had been under mounting pressure from his bankers and shareholders to sell off many of the assets he had strived so hard to acquire. Profits began to shrink as he sold the cash-generating Pergamon Press, the origin of his empire and the part closest to his heart, and other assets.

Meanwhile, the recession was hammering his newspaper profits. *The New York Daily News*, which he acquired in a blaze of publicity earlier this year, is still making significant losses. So is *The European*, his ambitious weekly which has never managed to lift its sales much above 200,000.

### THE PRESSURE

BBC Television's investigation on *Panorama* last month into his labyrinthine share deals, accounting methods and inter-company dealings did not help to bolster investor confidence in Mr Maxwell.

But the *Panorama* allegations did not lead to a significant drop in *Mirror* circulation, which in September stood at 2.9 million (3.68 million if combined with *The Record* in Scotland), compared to *The Sun's* 3.76 million.

It is too early to say whether the allegations that Nick Davies, the dismissed *Daily Mirror* foreign editor, was spying for the Israelis, have had any impact on *Mirror* sales. Mr Davies, who was often taken on foreign trips and introduced to senior foreign politicians by Mr Maxwell, was dismissed last week for making "untrue denials" of a meeting with Clarence Kessman, an arms dealer, in Ohio in 1985.

Mr Maxwell, also implicated by Seymour Hersh's book *The Samson Option*, said when the allegations first surfaced: "The accusations against me are ludicrous, a total invention." He had begun legal action for alleged libel against the book's publishers.

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Davies: sacked from the *Mirror* for untrue denials

## Soldier, MP and publisher

1923: Robert Maxwell born Jan Ludvik Hoch on June 10, in small village on Czech-Romanian border. Described by himself as "self-educated".

1939: joined the Czech army in France after marching across Hungary and Yugoslavia. Made his way to Britain and joined the Pioneer Corps.

1944: took part in the Normandy landings as a sapper sergeant and commissioned as a second lieutenant.

1945: awarded Military Cross and promoted to captain.

1946: transferred to Intelligence Corps; head of British Forces press section in Berlin, 1945-7. Changed name to Maxwell in 1945 and married Elisabeth. Couple have three sons and one daughter. Another son died in infancy.

1948: founded and became chairman of Robert Maxwell Ltd.

1960: chairman of Labour national fund-raising foundation and Labour working party on science, government and industry.

1961: director of Gauthier-Villars, publishers, Paris.

1964: elected Labour MP for Buckingham until defeated in 1970 election. Unsuccessfully contested seat again in two 1974 general elections.

1965: chairman of Roundhouse Trust.

1966: director of Computer Technology Ltd.

1968: chairman and chief executive, International Learning Systems Corporation.

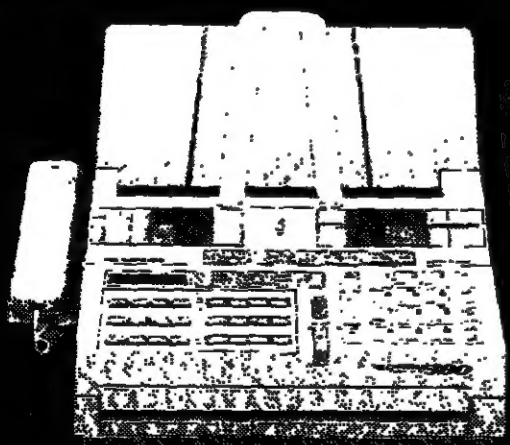
1981: founder and publisher of Pergamon Press, chairman of BPCC.

1982: Chairman of Select TV.

1984: Chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers, Oxford United FC and British Cable Services.

In 1971, accused of misrepresenting assets on Stock Exchange. Trade and Industry department inspectors reported he was "not a person who can be relied on to exercise proper stewardship".

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## Love affair with New York turned sour after plaudits for News rescue

From CHARLES BREMNER  
IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK must have been one of the few towns in the world where strangers would rush up to Robert Maxwell in the street and pump his hand with gratitude.

They started doing that last March after Mr Maxwell saved the near-bankrupt *New York Daily News*, the city's biggest-selling tabloid, and the persona of Captain Bob entered the cast of larger-than-life New York celebrities.

Moved by the adulation, Mr Maxwell wandered to reporters on a stroll through the streets: "How do I capture the imagination of this city and hold on to it? I'm not used to this kind of honey-moon."

### LAST TAKEOVER

Declaring the *News* to be his last big project before retirement, Mr Maxwell threw himself with his usual gusto into promoting himself along with his publication. He could be seen beaming on billboards and his gravelly voice could be heard on the radio commanding: "We're back, buy us".

His latest ambitious gamble was to launch an American edition of *The News*, whose largely working-class readership would seem unlikely prospects for the foreign weekly, were treated to full-page portraits of Mr Maxwell announcing his exciting new venture.

He insisted, however, that profit was his goal, denying that the edition was an exercise in vanity. "I'm not the Salvation Army," he said at the launch press conference, which he staged in a hall of the United Nations building, hard by the East River yacht basin where the

Lady Ghislaine, his yacht, had become a familiar sight.

However, Mr Maxwell's proclaimed devotion to becoming a New Yorker had waned in recent months as his troubles in London required his presence there, and New York's love affair turned somewhat sour.

Wall Street has not favoured his plans to spin off his American operations into an independent unit and he suffered from what he said was a vendetta against him by journalists who were overly influenced by the prejudices of their British colleagues.

However, unlike the British reaction, the claim by Seymour Hersh and British MPs that Mr Maxwell had helped the Israeli government, caused him little damage in New York.

Mr Maxwell was said to be growing worried about the fate of the *News*, which has cost far more to turn around than he predicted. Although his team has recovered about half the lost circulation and won back advertisers, it is still said to be losing about \$1 million a month after

soaking up the \$60 million he received from the Tribune Company for taking on all its liabilities.

"The *News* is a capitalless ship for long periods of time, without anyone to make day-to-day decisions," Barry Lipton, president of the Newspaper Guild, complained last month.

Mr Maxwell had also not endeared himself to editorial staff on the *News* by inserting his own editorials, with a leftwing slant at odds with the newspaper's traditional voice.

His editorial page director left for other fields in August after Mr Maxwell ordered him to publish a leader calling on Western countries to help to shore up the centralised Soviet Union of its president, Mikhail Gorbachev.

However, an atmosphere of shock descended on the newspaper's art deco headquarters on 42nd Street yesterday as staff wondered whether Mr Maxwell's supporters would be fast-disposed than him to keeping this loss-making newspaper on its feet.



## ROBERT MAXWELL: THE FAMILY AND LIFESTYLE

## Chance meeting set a course for life

By ALAN HAMILTON

TO BECOME a larger-than-life character, simultaneously adored and reviled, generous and piratical, it is never a bad thing to have as a starting point roots that are humble, obscure, mysterious and, preferably, foreign. On that basis, Robert Maxwell was weighed down with privilege from the day he was born.

There was nothing remotely auspicious about the birth of Jan Kocik-Koch on June 10, 1923. His parents were humble farm labourers in the Carpathian mountains of Czechoslovakia, and that is all that he, too, might have been had not the war intervened.

With little or no formal education, he found himself in the Czech army at the age of 15, but with the onset of war he became one of thousands of central European Jews who realised that a Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia was not the best place to be.

Making his way through France, and changing his name several times — including, at one stage, to du Maurier — he reached England in 1940.

Adding a year to his real age, he joined the British Army and spent nearly four inglorious years as a ranker in the Pioneer Corps, until he was commissioned in the field in Normandy and won the Military Cross.

Having changed his name again, he decided to stick with it: Ian Robert Maxwell. He decided, too, to stick with Britain as his adopted country.

As soon as hostilities were over, he was posted to Berlin as a press officer with the British Control Commission, overseeing newly launched German newspapers. There he met, by chance, Julius Springer, the German publisher, a meeting which set the course of his life. Springer had access to huge piles of German scientific documents, and convinced Mr Maxwell that there would be a huge demand for them among the worldwide scientific community.

Demobilised in 1947, Mr Maxwell returned to Britain as Springer's representative in this country and, with his £300 army gratuity, bought a small London bookshop, while at the same time repairing the omissions of his formal education by learning nine languages.

Another chance meeting, this time with Sir Charles Hambro, the merchant



Family man: Robert Maxwell and his wife, Elisabeth, with their children, from left, Ghislaine, Ian, Anne, Kevin and Christine

banker, was to prove even more significant. He persuaded Hambro to lend him £13,000, convincing the financier that the world was hungry for technical publications.

With the money, he founded Pergamon Press, and never looked back. If he underpaid his authors and overpriced his books, it seemed not to matter.

He calculated correctly, that scientists would be willing to write for the sheer kudos of being read around the world, and that, even if Pergamon's output contained a fair amount of dross, other scientists would be more than willing to fork out for his lavishly expensive titles to get at the few jewels within.

His intense kept pace with Pergamon's success. He moved into Headington Hall, in Oxford, and brushed aside complaints of neighbors who said his peacocks made too much noise. He was socially gauche and blundering, but glossed over his gaffes with an immense self-constructed patriotism and enthusiasm for all things British that only a foreigner could achieve. He proclaimed loudly and

proudly that he was a socialist, claiming that his mother had been a member of the Social Democratic Party of Czechoslovakia, and that he himself had joined the Fabian Society in 1945.

Yes, British socialism resented him. When he won the nomination as Labour candidate for Buckingham in 1959, he endured a malicious whispering campaign against him, based mainly on the fact that he was foreign, but had never come clean about who he really was.

Nor did they care for him owning a Rolls-Royce (he actually campaigned in a much more humble Humber), nor for the fact that, somewhere along the line in his brief but meteoric business career, one of his companies had failed.

Mr Maxwell came clean about Mr Koch, and laughed off the rest. His tenacity was rewarded; at the 1964 general election, he seized the former Tory marginal with a slender majority of 1,481. Even had he lost, he would have had the satisfaction of knowing that Pergamon Press had just made him his first million.



The candidate: during the campaign in Buckingham



The soldier: in the British Army during the war

## Sons groomed to succeed at the top

By ANGELA MACKAY

ROBERT Maxwell had worked hard to secure the succession in the companies he built up by ensuring that his sons occupied responsible, high-profile positions in the businesses.

Ian Maxwell, aged 35, appointed acting chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers yesterday, was already deputy chairman of the new company, which was floated five months ago. He was joint managing director of Maxwell Communication Corporation with his younger brother, Kevin, until July 1, but resigned that post to concentrate on Mirror Group. He remains, however, on MCC's board as a non-executive director and is managing director of The European.

While Ian Maxwell was earmarked to take over the newspaper interests in which

## SONS

his father took such a passionate interest, it was Kevin Maxwell who was heir to the stewardship of his father's master company, MCC. Kevin, aged 32, was appointed acting chairman of MCC yesterday and is managing director of the group.

One media executive said: "Both are very likeable men. Ian is very sensible and able, but Kevin has struck me as the shrewder player. They are not extroverts like their father, they are more conventional City types and I believe the companies' bankers have been favourably impressed."

In an interview earlier this year, Ian described himself as the publisher among the sons and Kevin as the bids and deals member of the offspring.

## Hersh libel actions go on

## THE LAW

By FRANCES GIBB  
LEGAL AFFAIRS  
CORRESPONDENT

AS the dead cannot be libelled, all defamation actions lodged by Robert Maxwell in his name would fall with his death.

However, many of the actions, such as some of those lodged over the affair surrounding the book by Seymour Hersh, alleging the involvement of journalist Nick Davies, the *Daily Mirror's* former foreign editor, with Israeli intelligence, were also in the name of Mirror Group Newspapers and will therefore continue.

Richard Stott, editor of the *Mirror*, said yesterday that he had spoken to Mr Maxwell on Monday night. Mr Maxwell was not depressed but "very angry" about the allegations in the Hersh book.

Mr Maxwell, who could claim to be the most litigious newspaper proprietor in the history of the industry, had lodged writs against Faber and Faber, the publishers of Mr Hersh's book; the author himself; and Rupert Allison MP, for repeating the allegations.

Mirror Group Newspapers were joint parties to the actions against the author and the publisher.

Most newspapers, publishers and broadcasting media have received writs or solicitors' letters from Mr Maxwell himself, Maxwell Communications Corporation or Mirror Group Newspapers.

Apart from the libel actions arising from Mr Hersh's book *The Samson Option*, writs were issued for libel and malicious falsehood over a BBC Panorama programme in September which examined the Maxwell business empire. It seems likely these will continue.

Last year the Lord Chancellor issued a consultation paper canvassing a possible change in the law on the death of a party to defamation proceedings. One proposal was that the action should survive, notwithstanding the death of one of the parties; or, that although the action should survive, the damages obtainable should be restricted in cases where the victim has died before the award. But no change was made.

## Shock and disbelief at Mirror

By TIM JONES

THE press last night displayed in equal measure its cruelty and compassion as journalists on the *Daily Mirror* realised that the man they loathed or loved was probably dead. While Richard Stott, editor of the *Mirror*, said that he was stunned and shocked, some of his staff were less kind. Opposite the *Mirror* building in London, the White Hart public house, known in the trade as the "stab in the back", lived up to its nickname, with some journalists showing little understanding of an event that could change their lives.

It seemed, however, that most of the *Mirror* staff were dismayed at the thought that "Captain Bob" would no longer be in their midst to inspire them with his enthusiasm. Anne Robinson, a *Mirror* journalist who perhaps achieved the distinction of being better known than her boss, said: "He just enriched my life. He was my inspiration and my hero. Please do not misunderstand me, but Mr Maxwell loved the company of women and I owe to him very much."

Journalists on the paper heard the news when they gathered on the third floor of the *Mirror* building in Holborn Circus to discuss business concerning the National Union of Journalists. Instead, Mr Stott told them that Mr Maxwell had been lost at sea. Executives tried to put their emotions aside as they laid plans for a special edition of the newspaper.

Within half an hour of the news being released, the building was besieged by journalists from other organisations. Charles Wilson, the company's editorial director, said: "He was an enormously charismatic figure. He saved the *Daily Mirror* from extinction and was in every way a quite extraordinary man."

## Major praises 'great character'

JOHN Major last night paid tribute to Robert Maxwell describing him as "a great character". The prime minister disclosed that Mr Maxwell had given him "valuable insights" into the situation in the Soviet Union during the attempted coup.

Mr Major said: "Bob Maxwell will be missed. A holder of the Military Cross and former MP, he built up a publishing empire; and achieved his great ambition to own a national newspaper in 1984 with the *Daily Mirror*."

"No one should doubt his interest in peace and his loyalty to friends. During the attempted Soviet coup, this August, he was able to give me valuable insights into the situation in the Soviet Union because of his many contacts."

"In the world of football, too, he left his mark with a number of clubs, perhaps notably Derby County and Oxford United. Our immediate thoughts and prayers must be now for Bob Maxwell's family."

"For the man himself, I am sure he would not want us to

grieve at his loss but marvel at a quite extraordinary life, lived to the full."

Douglas Hurd, Foreign Secretary, said: "Robert Maxwell's tragic disappearance robs Britain of one of our most colourful and energetic figures. He had a tremendous appetite for foreign affairs as well as a real flair for business."

"He launched many humanitarian initiatives and was a vigorous campaigner for a united Europe which would heal the wounds left by World War Two."

"Above all he was a man of action. He wanted to get things done. He was truly larger than life."

Neil Kinnock said he was "greatly saddened" and spoke of the media tycoon — who was Labour MP for Buckingham from 1964-70 — as a man with "such a zest for life".

Saying his thoughts went to Mr Maxwell's wife Betty and the family, Mr Kinnock went on: "Bob Maxwell was a unique figure who attracted

controversy, envy and loyalty in great measure throughout his rumbustious life."

"He was a steadfast supporter of the Labour party and a man with genuine commitment to the advancement of the British people."

"I valued his personal friendship and the fact that, even when our judgment diverged, he was always willing to sustain his enthusiasm for the success of the Labour cause."

Peter Jay, BBC TV News economics editor, was Mr Maxwell's personal assistant for three and a half years, constantly at his side and acting as his spokesman. Mr Jay said: "I think he had more courage, physically and moral courage than anyone I have ever met."

Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Conservative MP for Selly Oak, said: "If you wrote a film about his life it would be rejected as unrealistic."

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrats leader, said Maxwell's rumbustiousness was "a unique part of our national scene."

## Football aim unfulfilled

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

ROBERT Maxwell enjoyed a sporting challenge. While he might have had his way in other areas of life, however, his dealings involving football clubs were controversial and his ambition to take over one of the big league clubs unfulfilled.

Mr Maxwell was also involved in underwriting the cost of staging the 1986 Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh, stepping in at the last minute as the organising committee was on the point of going bust.

Mr Maxwell's footballing connections began in 1981, when he invested £128,000 in Oxford United, a club in imminent danger of closure. He became chairman, but fell out with the supporters when he announced plans to merge Oxford with Reading and create a new club, Thames Valley Royals. He had to admit defeat when an opponent won control of Reading.

In 1984, Mr Maxwell attempted to buy a controlling interest in Manchester

United, but balked at the £15 million asking price. One month later he paid £300,000 for debt-ridden Derby County. He installed his son,



Maxwell: he enjoyed a sporting challenge

Ian, as chairman at Derby while staying on at Oxford as the club won promotion from the second division and won the Milk Cup in 1986.

In 1987, he took over as chairman at Derby after the club won promotion to the first division, and then announced a £2 million bid to buy Watford.

The Football League, however, refused to accept his plans. At the start of last season, Mr Maxwell said that he was prepared to shed all his football interests but became embroiled in the Tottenham Hotspur saga, lending Irving Scholar, chairman of Tottenham, £1.1 million and agreeing in principle to become "patron" of the club and a major shareholder in return for a further £12 million cash injection.

The league rejected that package and Mr Maxwell's seven-year association with Derby ended in June when he sold out to a local consortium. His other son, Kevin, is still in charge at Oxford with daughter, Ghislaine, also on the board of directors.

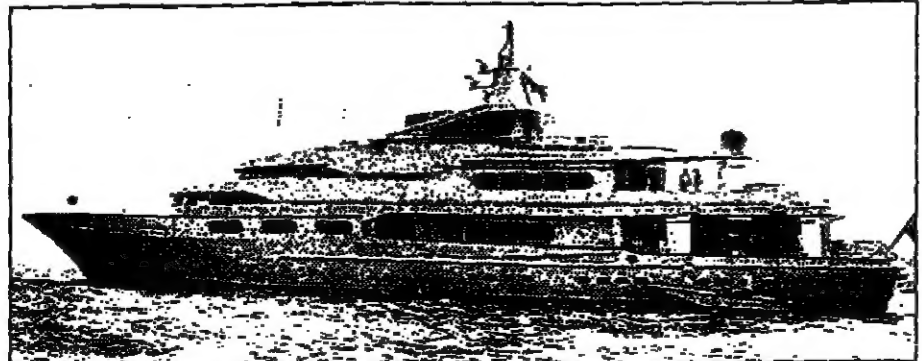
## Luxurious, hi-tech HQ that was a home from home

By ROBERT BALLANTYNE  
DEPUTY BUSINESS EDITOR

## THE YACHT

ON BOARD the *Lady Ghislaine*, Robert Maxwell really was the captain. The 55-metre Jon Bannenberg yacht, named after his daughter, may be the ultimate executive holiday home or a business expense for entertaining, or even be available for chartering when not needed by its owner — at over \$165,000 (£100,000) a week.

But Mr Maxwell's yacht is truly a floating headquarters, equipped with twin satellite communications systems (so that he could speak to the *Daily Mirror* newsroom while pages are being faxed

Captain's quarters: the *Lady Ghislaine*, a sleek aristocrat amid the plebeian ferries

out before publication). So he boasted to journalists who were flown out by private jet to Corsica in August 1988.

Maxwell, on holiday, had sought a press conference to explain his reasons for bidding \$2.6 billion for US publishing house Macmillan

Inc, which he eventually won. He was not inclined to return to London, so the press must go to him. A private Maxwell jet, one of a number run by Maxwell, flew half a dozen of us out for lunch and a few words from the chairman.

As we flew low over Bastia, the *Lady Ghislaine* was clearly visible just offshore, a sleek aristocrat amid the plebeian ferries and container ships entering the port. Speedboats came in to meet us, shoes had to be removed and a drink came speedily to

hand courtesy of one of the thirteen young men, who made up the crew.

*Lady Ghislaine*, completed in 1987, has four decks connected by not quite an atrium but certainly a glass-enclosed staircase. The lower two decks, presumably crew and guest quarters, were strictly out of bounds to journalists, who were each allocated a crew member to prevent inquisitive wanderings.

The main stateroom, dominated by a 180 degree curved window above a full width silver sofa, was as heavily air-conditioned as the best American hotel. Slightly spoiling the plush effect, a stocking-soled and tee-shirted Robert Maxwell held a short, relaxed discussion of his latest takeover

target. All he really wanted to talk about, however, was the yacht, which he described in minute detail: the faxes, the telephones, the satellite domes, the top speed of the twin diesels which far outstripped the sightseeing boats of Bastia. A quick glimpse of the top sun-deck revealed a jacuzzi and, with a panoramic view, a mini-gymnasium — in unused condition, it was noted.

Out in the heat on an aft deck, which has since held parties for hundreds, from the Cannes film festival to New York harbour when he took over *The New York Daily News*, Robert Maxwell looked comfortable, at ease. For a man doing business on three continents, the ocean-going, ultra-luxurious *Lady Ghislaine* was home.

In this month's Vanity Fair, the rising stars of the West,

Hotter than ever, the long-running Bette Midler has risen to become a Hollywood superstar. This month she talks about her life and her new film, "For the Boys," in which she stars with James Caan.

Norman Schwarzkopf masterminded Operation Desert Storm. John Major masterminded the safe enclaves for the Kurds, and Red Adair is masterminding the battle against Kuwait's oil fires. They're a few of the stars in Vanity Fair's 1991 Hall of Fame, "The War Heads."

and the fallen stars of the East.

Chairman Mao's widow was once the star of the Communist elite. In May this year she committed suicide after spending 15 years in China's Bastille for her role in the notorious Gang of Four. The authorities tried to silence her, but she had already told her story to one Westerner. Now Roxanne Witke tells the true story of Madame Mao in Vanity Fair.

Once the star of the Kremlin, Gorbachev rejected the warnings of his closest friends, ignored Boris Yeltsin, and embraced the hypocritical sycophants that led the coup against him. Gail Sheehy returned to Moscow for Vanity Fair to talk to those he refused to listen to.



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# "LET MY WILL REPLACE REASONED JUDGEMENT."

JUVENAL

## EDITORIAL

## Court favours free commercial speech

Federal law banning cigarette ads violates charter rights to free speech and is an intrusion into provincial jurisdiction over the regulation of advertising, according to the ruling of the Quebec Superior Court.

Tobacco ruling  
strikes blow  
for freedom

Financial Post

Globe &amp; Mail

*It's not fair or democratic.*

*But that seems to be Brussels' view when it comes to tobacco advertising.*

*In a recent court decision in Canada, the judge ruled that tobacco advertising had no proven effect on overall consumption. And*

*that banning advertising did not reduce consumption.*

*He also struck down Canada's ban on tobacco advertising as "a form of censorship and social engineering which is incompatible with the very essence of a free and democratic society."*

*Nevertheless, in the face of the evidence Brussels continues to try to ban tobacco advertising in Europe.*

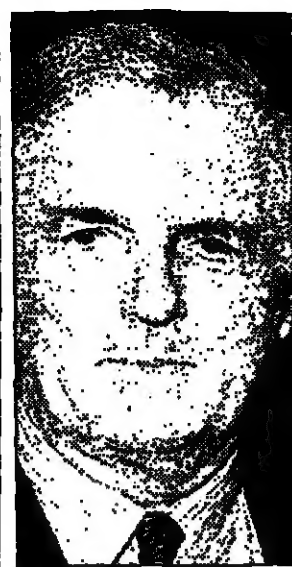
*The will is clear. But where is the reasoned judgement?*

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# Tory Euro-enthusiasts preparing to strike against EC critic



Whitney: may challenge Euro-sceptic in Tory poll

TIERED of seeing the field left to high-profile Euro-sceptics such as Norman Tebbit, whom they and Douglas Hurd regard as a vociferous minority, those who consider themselves the Tory party's "moderate majority" have begun demanding that the party leadership heads their voice on Europe.

The visit to John Major on Monday night by Tory MPs to plead with him to spell out the benefits of a successful deal on European union, as well as the snags, was only the start of a new campaign.

Ministers' tough talking on European union in the Maastricht run-up has provoked a backlash from Conservative Euro-enthusiasts. They fear that the prime minister is bending too far to placate Mr Tebbit and the shrouded threat of Margaret Thatcher. One said yesterday: "Douglas would never have dreamed of using the language he

Conservative Euro-enthusiasts are joining the battle for John Major's ear, making a backbench chairmanship contested territory. Robin Oakley and Nicholas Wood report

is using now only six weeks ago." Some are telling whips Mr Major should face up to anti-Brussels hard-liners, however eminent.

As the manoeuvring intensifies, those in favour of a Maastricht deal are planning to unseat Bill Cash, the high-profile chairman of the Tory backbenchers' European affairs committee, who is a relentless critic of proposals for monetary and political union.

The eleven who went to see Mr Major, urging him to give a positive lead on Europe in the two-day Commons debate on November 20 and 21, were Sir Richard Luce, Tony Nelson, Sir Peter Hordern, Edwina Currie, Alistair Burt, Ian Taylor, Nigel Forman.

Tim Devlin, David Harris, Tim Smith and Ray Whitney. They argued that the European issue was being polarised between party extremes and pledged their support for Mr Major's efforts to secure a deal at Maastricht.

Another dozen of the fifty or so now grouped in a loose association will see Mr Hurd next week, and on November 18, many of them will aid the launch of a parliamentary wing of the Conservative Group for Europe. However, the Tory divisions are likely to be exposed before then in the battle to unseat Mr Cash.

Committee chairmen normally have access to ministers, but little real clout. These, however, are not

normal times as the Tory leadership seeks a deal in Maastricht that will preserve the party unity without which its electoral prospects would be at risk.

The assiduous Mr Cash has announced his intention to go to Maastricht in December in readiness to pronounce to the assembled media, not a prospect relished by ministers. Only yesterday, one Foreign Office insider was reflecting gloomily on the likely spectacle of a Euro-sceptic, surrounded by microphones and cameras, picking holes in the treaties.

The committee chairmanship is not in the party leader's gift, but subject to election by Tory MPs. The cabinet can only look on nervously as the warring backbench factions make their dispositions, hoping that the whips can surreptitiously mobilise support around a less controversial figure.

Interference could be fatal. The gossip at Westminster is of

the Euro-enthusiast wing making common cause with the centre-right and putting forward a heavy-weight figure who can be relied upon to toe the government line. Sir Norman Fowler, the former cabinet minister, and Michael Jopling, a former chief whip, are among names floated and later discounted. Ray Whitney, a former junior Foreign Office minister, who was soundly beaten for the post last year, remains a possible contender. Others are being sounded out.

The case against Mr Cash is that by close association with the fiercely anti-federalist Bruges Group and by an ill-judged attempt to pass off his views as those of the prime minister in a Commons motion in the summer, he has lost the confidence of backbench colleagues. Mr Cash, however, insists that he went to great pains to clear his motion, opposing a single currency and signed by

more than 100 MPs. He points out that he is chairman of Friends of Bruges and not the group proper, which has condemned its excesses, which include blaming Mr Major for the plight of the Kurds and accusing him of being frightened to use the veto at Maastricht.

"My position has always been in line with government policy, which is that we do not want to have a single currency, central bank, a common defence policy and co-decision in the European parliament," Mr Cash said.

Of course, the issue is more complex than that. Mr Major is against imposition of a single currency and is prepared to sign a treaty committing Britain to the objective while leaving open the question of whether and when it climbs aboard.

Hurd's warning, page 10  
Woodrow Wyatt, page 16  
Leading article, page 17

## Municipal review

### Humberside will be the first target

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

HUMBERSIDE, Britain's least-loved county, will be the first target of the biggest review of local government in England for two decades.

Michael Portillo, the local government minister, said work on redrawing the municipal map would start in Humberside next year with the first of the new unitary authorities emerging in April 1994.

Mr Portillo, launching a local government bill to create a local government commission to oversee the process, said that aim was to make councils more accountable and accessible to the people they served.

The present two-tier structure of county and district

**Realigning more than loyalties**

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

IT WILL take more than appeals to traditional loyalties to sort out the future of Leicestershire under the government's plans for the biggest local government reorganisation for 20 years.

At first glance the county, which swallowed up Rutland in the 1974 restructuring, might look like the ideal candidate for a straightforward split along traditional lines. Restoring Rutland's county status would undoubtedly prove popular but it would not solve the structural problems if the county council was abolished.

Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, has long made it clear that he favours the restoration of something like county borough status to cities like Leicester, yet the city's leaders argue that it would make little sense to create a unitary status within the city council's existing boundaries.

Greater Leicester spills into most of the county's district boroughs. Redrawing the city boundary to take in all the conurbation would deprive the district boroughs of Oadby and Wigston, and possibly Blaby, of their raison d'être. That would lead to another large-scale redrawing of boundaries within the county and reopen old wounds.

Publicly, the district councils insist that they are all ready to take over their areas as unitary authorities, providing all services from education to street cleaning. Privately, many admit that, despite tensions between the two tiers, the existing structure works well enough and are unhappy that ministers have gone ahead without examining the need for change.

councils outside London and the metropolitan areas was confusing and ripe for reform, he said. Although ministers wanted to see a single tier of all-purpose councils there would be no attempt to impose a uniform pattern on the whole country.

Humberside would be "first into the melting pot" because the existing Local Government Boundary Commission, which will be replaced by the new body, had already recommended its partial abolition. Mr Portillo said that the government did not expect all county councils to be abolished. Two-tier local government would remain in some areas where local people wanted them to stay.

Mr Portillo ruled out the use of official referenda to decide the structure of local authority but said the government did favour the use of "more sophisticated" measures such as opinion polling.

The bill also includes powers for the Audit Commission to publish league tables of local authority performance as part of the government's Citizen's Charter. The measure will apply to all local authorities in England and Wales, including parish and town councils and it will also require them to publish auditors' reports.

In addition, there are powers for ministers to extend the range of local authority services that must be opened up to competition by private contractors although the bill does not go as far as expected. It stops short of requiring all white collar tasks, including legal, financial, personnel and computing departments to be subjected to competitive tendering.

Robert Key, the junior environment minister, said the government had decided this could be done effectively only if an internal market for services was created in local government in a similar way to the health service. Although tendering would be extended to a range of services previously untouched, including fire engine repairs, libraries and school transport, legislation on white collar services would not be likely before 1994.

Bryan Gould, the shadow environment secretary, said that Labour would oppose the measure. "We had hoped until the publication of this bill that the question of the future structure of local government could be proceeded with on the basis of some sort of all-party consensus."

He said that Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, should not have the power to abolish what he saw as wicked Labour counties and keep Conservative councils. This would amount to "gerrymandering on a very unacceptable basis", Mr Gould said.



Women of the hour: Clare Selerie-Grey, left, and Sally Feldman, who share the editor's job since Ms Selerie-Grey's return from maternity leave

## Men open their hearts to Woman's Hour

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

MORE men than ever are listening to *Woman's Hour* since Radio 4 moved the 45-year-old programme from 2pm to 10.30am in September. *Woman's Hour*, which has always aspired to be the voice of British women, has increased the proportion of its male listeners by 6 per cent to 36 per cent, and men are baring their souls and innermost feelings to Jenni Murray, the show's presenter, more often. "I am amazed how frankly they talk about personal problems and emotions," said Sally Feldman,

joint editor of the programme with Clare Selerie-Grey. "They open up on air to a woman in a way they never would if they were being interviewed by another man."

However, Ms Feldman insisted that the programme has not been changed to accommodate men because of its new morning slot. "Men like the female perspective," she said. "Men, particularly younger men, are becoming more interested in the woman's point of view. While it is true we are more conscious about issues important to men, we

have not compromised our stance on women. They make up a vast proportion of our listenership and we would not do anything to marginalise them."

Ordinary and extraordinary women could be heard over the years on *Woman's Hour* talking about their personal experiences, fears, delights, hobbies and problems but, with the subject matter expanded to include more men's issues, those tuning in lately might have heard men talking freely about their experiences with testicular cancer, preg-

nant girlfriends or domestic violence.

"We've had programmes about men with anorexia, and men who annoy their wives with obsessive collecting," Ms Selerie-Grey said. "Our research shows that they can be suffering from an obscure form of mental disorder. Last week we had a programme about crying babies and a desperate father rang in about what he should do."

However, *Woman's Hour*, now a much faster-paced programme, remains committed to its female audience, cover-

ing issues which effect women and interviewing women experts. "It is the only place where there is positive discrimination in favour of women," Ms Feldman said. "When we want to do an interview with BT, we ask for a woman representative. They have to send one." Ms Selerie-Grey said: "If a woman became the next governor of the Bank of England, we would interview her, but we would not be as likely to do the story if it was a man."

Media, page 34

## Arts at risk, says Everitt

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE government arts subsidy must rise at least in step with inflation if a crisis is to be avoided, Anthony Everitt, secretary general of the Arts Council, said yesterday.

Launching the council's annual report, Mr Everitt said: "We have been told to expect 3.5 per cent over last year. We want something very much in excess of that. There are potential dangers and they are very great." Mr Everitt said that the quality of, and access to, the arts was under threat, and theatre buildings and other centres were continuing to deteriorate.

Tim Renton, arts minister, will announce his allocation to the council tomorrow. Last year, it was £194.2 million. The accounts of the council, ordered to save £600,000 a year on administration, show operating costs up by £700,000 in the past year.

## Number of doctors under strain doubles in one year

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

A RECORD number of doctors are being treated for alcoholism, drug abuse and mental illness, according to a report to be given to the General Medical Council today.

In the past 12 months almost twice as many doctors have been referred to the council because of doubts about their fitness to practice as in the previous corresponding period.

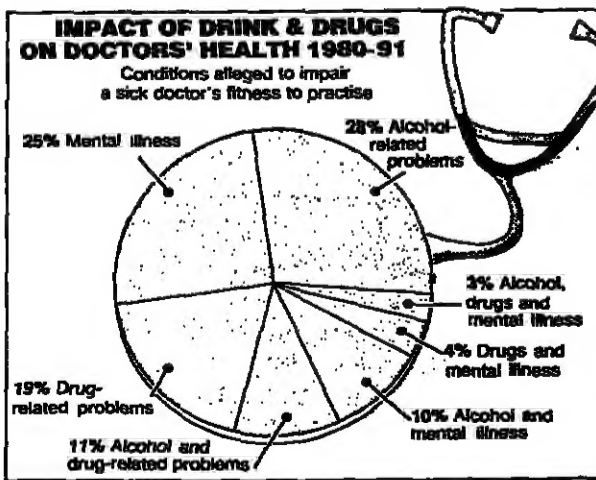
The report is the second in four months to show that drink and drug addiction is widespread in the medical profession. Last July, researchers at the Institute of Psychiatry, in London, said that such doctors spend an average of seven years struggling with their conditions before seeking treatment.

The GMC dealt with 85 such cases between October last year and the end of September. Seventy-eight doctors are at present under medical supervision, the most

ever, the council confirmed yesterday.

"We do not know whether the numbers represent any real increase in sickness, or merely greater willingness to refer to the council," Neil Kessel, who screens such

cases, says in his report. Doctors who are reported to the council are discreetly investigated. They may then be asked to undergo a medical examination, to accept supervision by colleagues, and to embark on treatment.



## Legionnaires' alert after woman dies

By OUR MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 1,400 general practitioners have been told to watch for symptoms of Legionnaires' disease among their patients after a hospital outbreak of the illness contributed to the death of an elderly woman.

Water supplies at the Regional Cardiothoracic Centre at Broadgreen hospital, Liverpool, have been chlorinated and heated to destroy the bacteria responsible.

Mersey regional health authority denied claims yesterday that it had been slow to respond to the outbreak, and was supported by William Waldegrave, the health secretary. "All the necessary steps were taken and I do not

believe there has been any dereliction of duty," he said in the House of Commons in reply to David Alton, Liberal Democrat MP for Liverpool Mossley Hill.

Hugh Lamont, a senior spokesman for the health authority, said: "We have done everything to protect patients. There were no delays."

The woman who died was a 63-year-old patient who had undergone heart surgery at the centre. She showed symptoms of Legionnaires' disease, a form of pneumonia, at the end of September, and although treated with antibiotics, she died on October 2. Her death was recorded as due to heart disease.



## Sunday schools lose out to Sindy dolls

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE death of the national custom of Sunday school attendance has led to a decline in Christianity as England's "folk religion". Children are instead adopting a vaguer mixture of Christianity, astrology, occultism and fate, according to a church report published today.

The report warns that children live in a "prematurely adult and somewhat lonely world that accustoms them to materialism, hedonism, selfishness, sexual amorality, the unseriousness and even normality of violence, the possibility of spiritual power through an openness to the occult". The report, *All*

*God's Children*, calls on churches to invest new resources urgently in the evangelising of children. It suggests a connection between the death of Sunday school attendance and the break-up of a moral consensus. About 15 per cent of all children under 13 are involved in church activities, compared with more than two-thirds 50 years ago.

The report condemns a "commercial assault" on children, with collectable character dolls such as Barbie, Sindy, My Little Pony and Robocop. "Barbie and Sindy dolls are not the dolls of 30 years ago," the report says. "They have contemporary hair styles, wasp-like waists and long, shapely legs. They are every little girl's fantasy of what she would like to be. They are about

lifestyle." With the lifestyle comes things to be sought after: fine clothes, slim figure, a horse, holidays in Spain and exotic night clubs.

The report, by an ecumenical working party set up by Church of England board of mission and education, will be debated at the general synod meeting next week. It says: "To have questions about evangelising children because of a worthy fear of pressurising the immature means that they are left to wallow in a world of false values and gospels. Others have few such qualms."

*All God's Children*, the National Society and Church House Publishing, bookshops or Church House Bookshop, 31 Gt Smith St, London SW1P 3BN, £5.95 plus 80pp.

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Throgmorton Trust PLC, owner of Arthur Ackermann & Son Ltd., is pleased to announce that this business is being purchased by Oscar and Peter Johnson Limited, 27 Lowndes Street, London SW1.

Ackermann's Annual Exhibition of Sporting Art due to open on 7 November at 33 New Bond Street, London W1, has been cancelled.

Enquiries should be directed to Oscar and Peter Johnson Limited, tel. 071-235 6464.



# Whitbread book contest distils heady brew of five finalists

TAKE a bunch of wild Irish poems, an epistolary women's novel, a way-out first novel, the first of an art biography's four volumes and a jokey children's tale about a mysterious electrician called Harvey Angell, and we know that the time has come for the Whitbread Book of the Year.

The winners of the five categories were announced yesterday in the Sugar Room at the (original) Whitbread Brewery, beside the Barbican in the City of London. Each receives £2,000 and the chance to win the Whitbread Book of the Year award, worth another £20,500, in January.

The novel category was won by Jane Gardam for *The*

Hot on the heels of the Booker Prize contest comes another literary lottery. Philip Howard numbers off the entry tickets that will bring one lucky author a £20,500 reward

*Queen of the Tambourine* (Sinclair-Stevenson, £13.95), a funny and sad story told in letters of a middle-aged, middle-class woman going quietly potty in the posh end of Putney. Jane Gardam has already won a Whitbread award and has been on the shortlist for the Booker.

The first-novel category was won by Gordon Burn for *Alma Cogan* (Secker & Warburg, £13.99). This extraordinary and controversial work takes the life of Britain's biggest selling vocalist of the Fifties and turns it into

an exercise in murder, celebrity and autobiographical fantasy. Gordon Burn was born in Newcastle upon Tyne in 1948 and lives in London. He has written two previous books of non-fiction, the story of the Yorkshire Ripper and a book about boom-time snooker.

Poetry went to Michael Longley for *Gorse Fires* (Secker & Warburg, £6), the definitive collection of 20 years' work by one of Ulster's leading poets. His preoccupations as a poet — love, death, nature, art, history — have

inevitably been intensified by the tragedy of Ulster. Michael Longley was born in Belfast in 1939 and read classics at Trinity College, Dublin. He spent several years teaching in Dublin, London and Belfast and has been the combined arts director of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.

The biography-art category went to John Richardson for *A Life of Picasso* (Jonathan Cape, £25), the first of a four-volume biography. John Richardson was born in



Contenders: Jane Gardam, novel category, Gordon Burn, first novel, Michael Longley, poetry, John Richardson, biography, and Diana Hendry, children

1924. For more than a decade he lived near Picasso and they became close friends. Richardson draws on that rare friendship with the elusive artist, his own diaries, the collaboration of Picasso's widow Jacqueline and unprecedented access to his studio and papers. This im-

portant work sheds light on Picasso's innovations, obsessions and influences.

The children's novel award was won by Diana Hendry for *Harvey Angell* (Julia MacCrae, £7.99). Angell breaks all Aunt Agatha's rules — he is cheerful, talkative, plays the flute and

makes Henry's Aunt Agatha laugh. But there is something odd about him. Clever young detective work solves the mystery.

Diana Hendry started work as a journalist. She lives in Bristol and combines teaching with writing books for all ages and poetry.

Judging between such diverse categories is like picking the best in a dog show between a beagle, a Jack Russell, a rottweiler, a spaniel and a beautiful tabby cat. It is a weird and wonderful literary lottery.

For the final on January 21 one judge from each of the three-person category panels goes forward to the final judicial team, where they are joined by six celebrities from the worlds of show business, politics and the other tell-friendly trades. Nicholas Mosley, who won last year's Whitbread with his novel *Hopeful Monsters*, and resigned from this year's Booker judges because he did not like the shortlist, is one of the celebrity judges this year.

## American collector sues dealer for £340,000 over 1913 car found to have a 'dubious past'

### Rolls-Royce was doctored buyer alleges

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

AN AMERICAN collector of veteran cars paid more than £50,000 for a 1913 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost from Coys of Kensington in 1983, only to discover six years later that the specialist London dealer had sold him a doctored 1922 model. The High Court was told yesterday.

The other thing that the American did not know when he bought the car was that it had already been the subject of litigation over its authenticity. Coys had sold it to a Surrey businessman as a 1913 model in 1981, it was alleged, but the following year had agreed to take it back when faced with a writ to set aside the sale agreement and claim damages for misrepresentation.

The new claim over the racing green Silver Ghost, registration number EL1743, was outlined to Mr Justice Macpherson by John Silberman, a collector from Tampa, Florida, who seeks damages for fraudulent misrepresentation or for breach of contract.

Mr Silberman, aged 46, is claiming the estimated £340,000 difference in today's value of the two models. He

said: "Nothing was ever said to me by Coys to suggest it was not a 1913 car or that there had been a previous history of litigation and their taking it back. If anything like that had been said to me, I would absolutely not have purchased the vehicle."

Mr Silberman said that he bought the car, chassis number 2513, to take part in the American Transcontinental Reliability Tour, which was open only to vehicles made before 1915, and did so without realising it was bogus. He had travelled to London to test drive the vehicle.

The chassis number had corresponded with 1913 manufacture, and Jeffrey Pattinson, now chairman of Coys, with whom he concluded the purchase, had shown him Rolls-Royce documentation that had appeared to prove authenticity.

In his statement of claim, Mr Silberman said that representations about provenance made by Mr Pattinson were repeated in Coys' sale invoice, which described the car as a 1913 Silver Ghost.

Mr Silberman claims that when the car was sold by the company, to John Lawson, a businessman from Surrey, for £55,000 in 1981 it was also represented as a being from before the first world war. However, in June 1982, Mr Lawson had told Coys that the car had the wrong chassis number and that the only significant pre-war parts were the carburettor, the coil, the air pump, the air regulator, the hand pump, and the fuel and oil gauge, and under threat of legal action, the dealer had accepted the car back.

Mr Silberman said that he had not known of the litigation and that he only discovered that the car might be bogus when he tried to sell it in 1989 to raise money when he was divorced. The collector William Wood, of Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, had agreed to buy the car, but had then said that he was withdrawing after the Rolls-Royce expert Jonathan Harley had advised him that the car was not what it appeared to be.

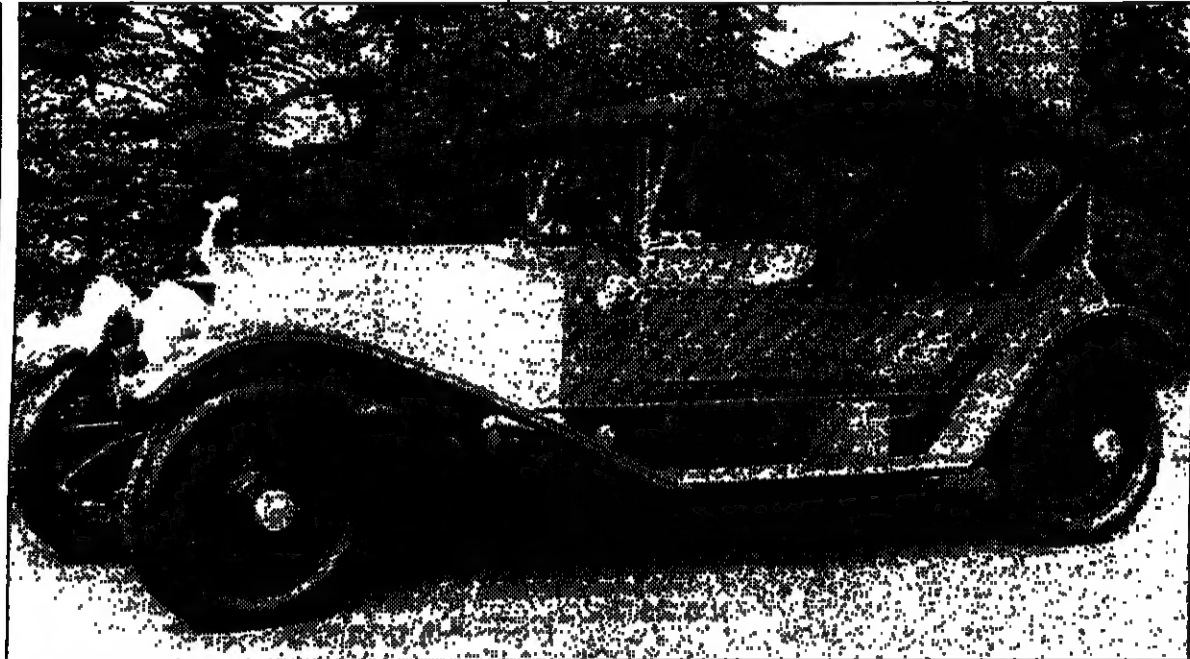
In May 1989, Mr Harley allegedly described the car as a 1922 model "doctored to look like a 1913".

The car, still in Mr Silberman's possession, is allegedly a 1922 P series Silver Ghost with the chassis number 35 RG, and not 2513, a pre-war number that had been stamped on the chassis. The value of a 1922 model today is £80,000, whereas a genuine 1913 model is now worth about £420,000, he says.

The case continues today.



John Silberman yesterday outside the High Court, where he is seeking damages over the Rolls-Royce, right, that he claims bore a false date



## Harm to water pollution victims is discounted

By PAUL WILKINSON

VICTIMS of Britain's worst domestic water pollution incident, at Camelford, Cornwall, three years ago, will not suffer long-term effects, a second enquiry into the affair concluded yesterday. However, it suggested formal testing to confirm that view and to allay public concern.

The report, by Professor Dame Barbara Clayton for the Department of Health, was immediately attacked by local residents. Hundreds of them claim their health and memory have suffered after 20 tonnes of concentrated aluminium sulphate, used to clarify drinking water, were wrongly discharged by a tanker driver into domestic supplies in July 1988.

Elizabeth Sigmund, co-ordinator of the South West Environmental Protection Agency, accused the health department of trying to "rubish" the views of independent medical experts. She said Professor Donald McLachlan, a leading authority on aluminium toxicity, wrote recently to Camelford doctors saying that the official committee of inquiry "seems to be singularly ill-informed about the neurotoxicity of aluminium".

Dame Barbara, professor of metabolism at Southampton University, says in her report: "The research reported to us does not provide convincing evidence that harmful accumulation of aluminium has occurred, nor that there is a greater prevalence of ill health due to the toxic effects of the water in the exposed population." The report says that muscle pains, fatigue and memory loss are common in all populations and that evidence suggests that Camelford was not exceptional.

"In our judgment, it is likely that these symptoms would have occurred in the normal

course of events," it says. "We believe they have been wrongly attributed to the incident as a result of the heightened awareness provoked by the incident and subsequent events."

However, it said the precise doses of aluminium received by residents were not known. "Therefore, although we have no reason to predict any late consequences, we cannot exclude them categorically. We recommend formal testing of the suggestion that some people might now show sensitivity to aluminium, including enhanced absorption."

"Continued surveillance of the health of this community is warranted, both because the incident was unique and because of continuing concern and worry in the community," Professor Clayton suggests that contamination of samples was the most likely explanation for reports of raised aluminium concentrations in some specimens collected after the incident. The inquiry committee also hints that people reporting fresh or continuing symptoms could be suffering trauma, brought on by the original incident.

Mrs Sigmund said that Professor Clayton's committee had done no clinical research. "They have not even spoken to the patients, yet they have criticised the doctors who have done tests of all sorts," she said.

The second enquiry was ordered by the government a year ago after pressure from locals who refused to accept the similar findings of an earlier report by Professor Clayton, but the re-appointment of the professor and the same three colleagues brought claims of a whitewash.

Many people living in the Camelford area dismissed the latest report yesterday. Do-

reen Skudder, aged 62, who, like her husband Ivan, aged 65, suffered from eczema after the incident, said: "They spent half a day in the town before their first report, but the nearest they got this time was Plymouth, which is not even in Cornwall."

Joan Cork, of the North Cornwall Residents' Association, said: "We just know there have been long-term effects. I think it is insulting to those people who have been gravely affected to tell them they are not affected."

Richard Newman, a local GP, who carried out tests on many people, said: "The remit of the committee was to take available information. My feeling is that, if they had been allowed to fully assess the community, they might have come to a different conclusion."

## Triumph for Short and Kasparov

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

THE strongest chess tournament in history, at Tilburg in The Netherlands, has ended in triumph for Gary Kasparov, the world champion, and Nigel Short, Britain's highest rated grandmaster.

Kasparov heralded a dramatic return to form by winning the tournament, officially rated at an average of International Chess Federation points at 2666, the highest in chess history, with 10 points out of a possible 14. Short came second, with 8½ points, ahead of a host of grandmasters, including Anatoly Karpov, the former world champion.

Kasparov sealed his victory in the final round by winning a brilliant and original game against Karpov, while Short secured the undivided second prize by defeating Gata Kamsky, the reigning Ameri-

can champion, in a marathon battle of 63 moves.

Final scores were (all points out of 14 possible): Kasparov (USSR) 10pts; Short (GB) 8½pts; Viswanathan Anand (India) 8pts; Karpov (USSR) 7½pts; Kamsky (USA) 7pts; Jan Timman (Holland) 6½pts; Viktor Korchnoi (Switzerland) 5½pts; and, last, Eugene Bareev (USSR) 3pts.

Anand distinguished himself by winning games against both Karpov and Kasparov. This is only the second occasion on which those two have lost to the same player in the same tournament.

Short will take tremendous encouragement from his result, since he lost only one game and finished ahead of Karpov, who will be his opponent in the world championship semi-final in Spain next April.

## Seamen rescued as ship blazes

Eighteen crew members were airlifted to safety yesterday from a burning cargo ship in the North Sea. Six crew were reported to have stayed aboard to help a fire-fighting team who boarded the Philippines-registered SK Link 1 from the fisheries protection vessel HMS Orkney.

The fire was thought to have begun in the engine room of the 5,000-ton roll-on, roll-off vessel carrying forestry products. There were no reports of injuries.

Two helicopters, two lifeboats and a number of merchant vessels were involved in the rescue operation about three miles off the North Yorkshire coast. Tugs were towing the stricken vessel towards the Tees estuary.

## MP criticises boys' sentence



Robert Key (above), the Conservative MP for Salisbury, has asked the Attorney-General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, to review the sentences on two schoolboy killers, which, Mr Key says, are too lenient.

Mark Willocks and Daniel Priestley, both aged 16, were sentenced to 12 months youth custody at Winchester crown court last month for the manslaughter of Jonathan Sims, 16, beaten to death after a feud.

## Prince's post

The Prince of Wales is to be president of the Royal Shakespeare Company, becoming legal and constitutional head of the company of which the Queen is patron. He succeeds Sir Kenneth Cork, who died last month. The board of governors also announced that closure of the Barbican theatre, London, last winter kept the company's deficit to just over £3 million.

## Pollution fine

A quarry firm, a subsidiary of British Rail, was fined £13,000 and ordered to pay £9,137 costs by Okehampton magistrates, Devon, for allowing 250,000 gallons of lime and toxic waste to seep into the River Okement, killing tens of thousands of salmon and trout. Meldoon Quarry Ltd admitted the pollution.

## Kidnap appeal

Desmond O'Hare, the Irish terrorist, is to appeal against his 40-year sentence imposed in 1988 for kidnapping a Dublin dentist, John O'Grady. O'Hare, aged 32, one of a gang demanding a £1.5 million ransom, cut off two of Mr O'Grady's fingers. The sentence is believed to be the heaviest imposed by an Irish court.

## Mansion fire

Harrington Hall, a grade II-listed mansion near Spilsby, Lincolnshire, the gardens of which are said to have inspired Tennyson's poem "Maud", and to have been the setting for *Locksley Hall*, was severely damaged by fire.

## Police posed as drug buyers

TWO undercover police officers posed as leather-clad bikers to help to smash an underworld drugs ring, a court was told yesterday.

The officers, known only as Tony and Carol, posed as buyers of the cocaine derivative crack as hidden cameras recorded the deals. Eight men were filmed allegedly taking part in crack deals during the police operation at the estate in north London, Knightsbridge Crown Court was told.

The officers, whose names have not been disclosed for their own safety, bought more than £1,500 worth of crack in "rock" form. They lured the sellers out of the shadows as colleagues watched from a nearby empty council flat, the court was told. Officers later swooped on the Chalk Hill estate, in Wembley, and

arrested eight men. Anne Rafferty, QC, for the prosecution, said: "Some police work last year meant that blocks C4 and C5 on the estate were watched carefully. This area was a market place and on sale there was the drug crack, a processed form of the drug cocaine and highly addictive."

"It was sold in the form of rocks which look like a small crystal and weigh about one tenth of a gram each. The two officers who posed as buyers were living and acting a role. They wore motorcycle kit and posed as a couple."

"Tony lured the dealers from the shadows and into the camera view by saying he wanted to stay on his part in case the bill arrived so he could make a fast getaway. This was his ploy. They cannot be seen and their full

names cannot be revealed so that they can continue their work as undercover drug investigators." The operation continued from September 19 to October 11 as officers kept the cameras rolling.

Keith Hinds, aged 21, of Chalk Hill estate, denied supplying crack. Albert McDowell, aged 29, of Kilburn, denies conspiring to supply crack.

Ian Graham, aged 27, of Willesden denies supplying crack and being concerned with supplying crack. Ricardo Benjamin, aged 20, also of the estate, denies offering to supply crack and being concerned with supplying crack.

Four further defendants all from the Chalk Hill estate admitted various drug charges and are awaiting sentence. The trial continues today.

## Woodland owners take on a grey pest

By JOHN YOUNG

THE first national census of squirrels in Britain was launched yesterday by Timber Growers United Kingdom (TGUK), which represents private woodland owners.

The object is to gain detailed information about the incidence of red and grey squirrels. The red have been almost entirely supplanted in many areas by grey squirrels, which were imported from North America towards the end of the last century and destroy thousands of young trees every year by stripping the bark.

Peter Wilson, the organisation's technical director, said yesterday that the grey squirrel, cuddly though it might seem, was the single biggest threat to growing broad-leaved trees in Britain. "Not only that, but it has effectively driven out the native red squirrel from most of the country," he said. "If we don't act now, it may soon be too late to save the red, and the task of establishing

new traditional broad-leaved woods will become impossible."

If the new national and community forests were to be properly established, based on broad-leaved woods, then control and awareness of squirrels was vitally important, he said. Grey squirrels had already colonised most of England and were moving into the last strongholds of the red, in northern England, Scotland and in North Wales.

The census will be carried out by Forestry Commission officials on behalf of TGUK. The commission has undertaken a similar survey on its own land, and the combined results will be used to plan an effective control strategy.

The most effective means of control yet found is the rodenticide Warfarin, but its use is banned in Scotland and in other areas where red squirrels are still common. Another method in common use is known as "drey poking", using long poles to shake squirrel nests to the

ground during the breeding season. The commission was working on the design of a new feeding hopper, a trap sunk into the ground baited with poisoned grain, Mr Wilson said. It was constructed to exclude birds and small animals, and contained a trapdoor that could be opened only by grey squirrels, which tended to be stronger, more intelligent and more inquisitive than the red variety.

Scientists differ as to why the grey squirrel has been so successful in displacing the red. It does not attack the red squirrel or seek to displace it, and in most woodlands there is enough food to permit coexistence.

However, studies have shown that wherever the grey squirrel, which breeds more prolifically, colonises a woodland, the red squirrel rapidly disappears. By contrast, on the Isle of Wight, where there are no grey squirrels, the red squirrel survives in healthy numbers.

**Times Tables**  
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 12 x 11 = 132  
 12 x 10 = 120  
 12 x 9 = 108  
 12 x 8 = 96  
 12 x 7 = 84  
 12 x 6 = 72  
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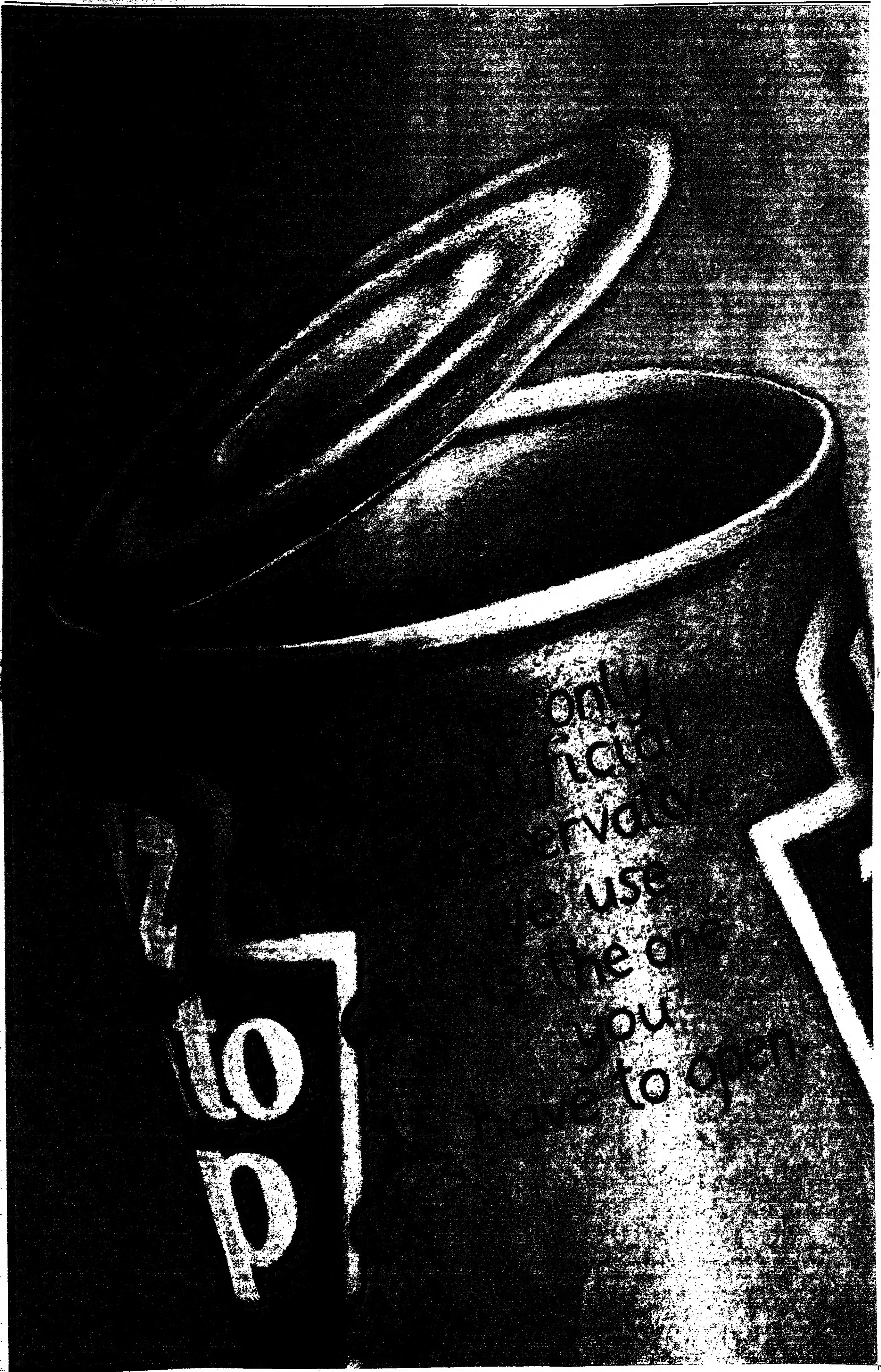


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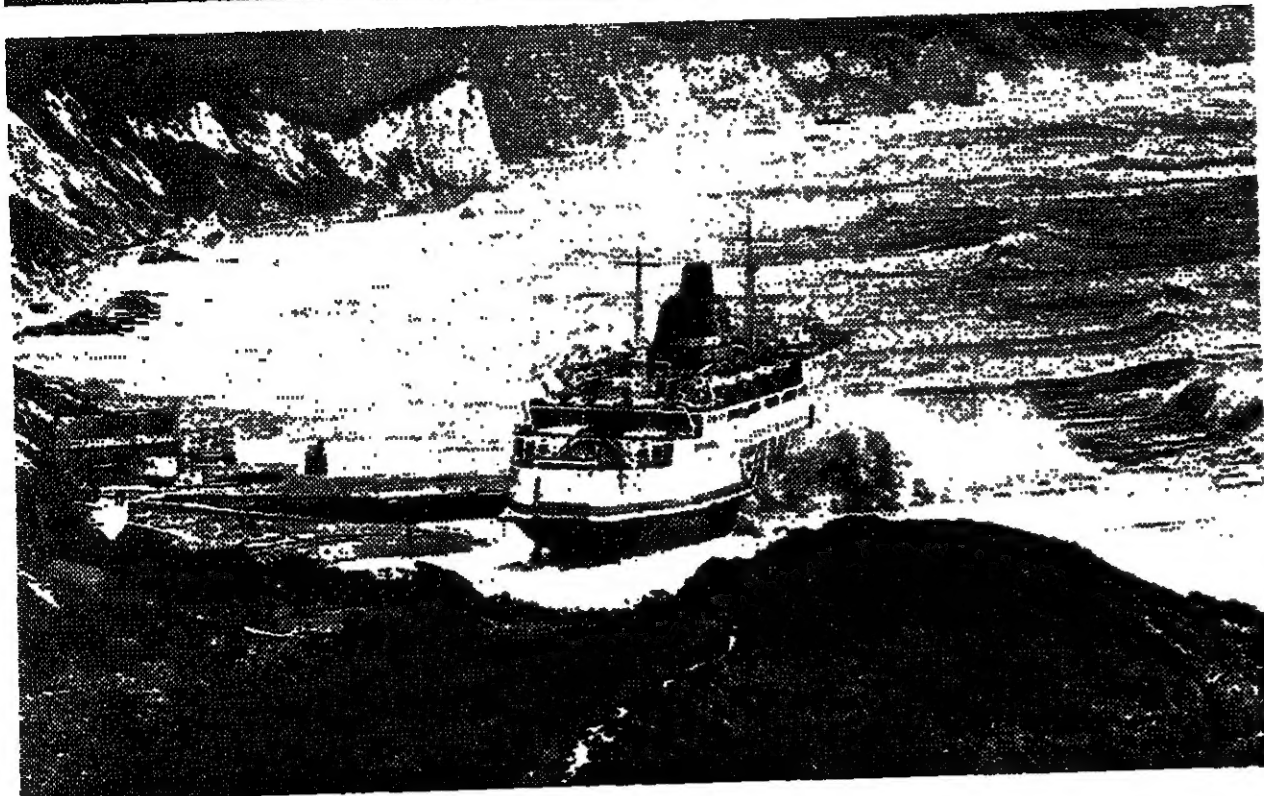
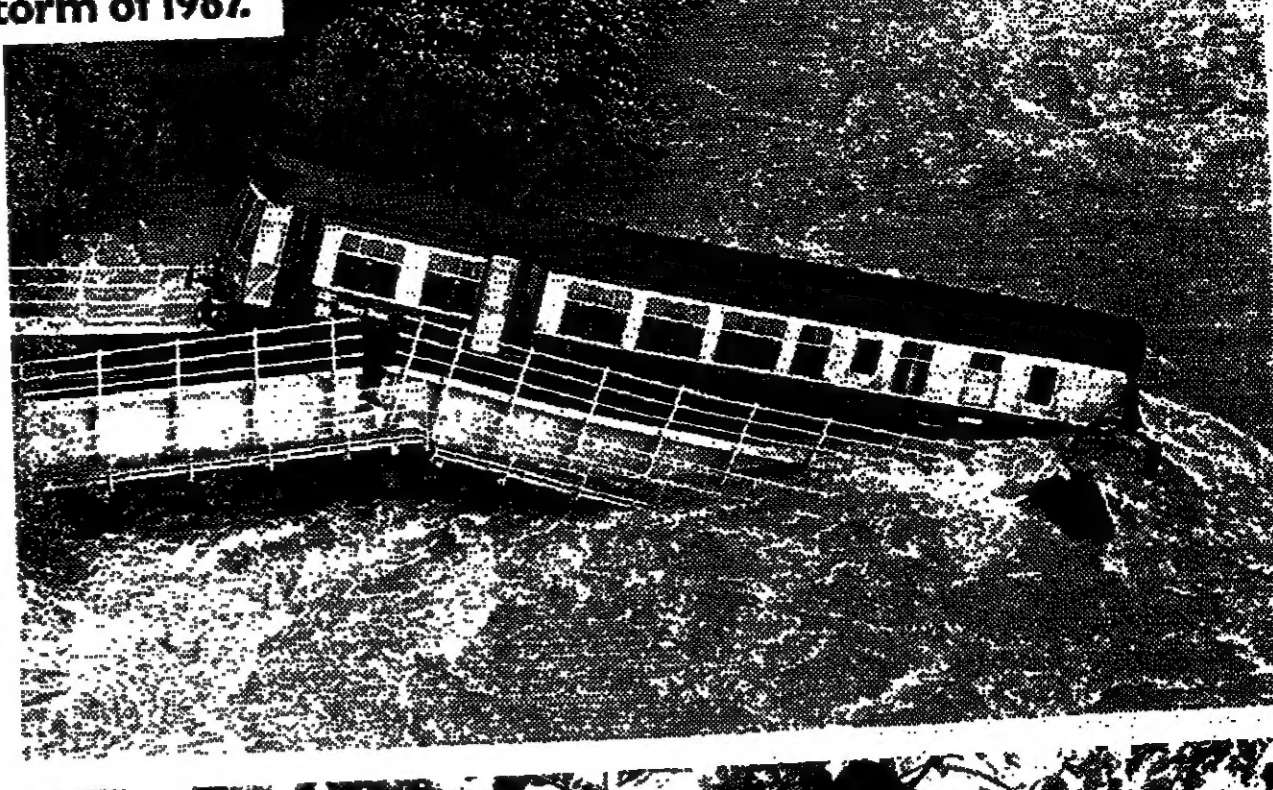


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The Great Storm of 1987.



# Global Warming. We have been warned.

You've probably heard of the 'Greenhouse Effect'. It's the warming effect of 'greenhouse' gases like carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in the atmosphere, which act as a sort of double-glazing, trapping the Sun's heat.

Without it, the Earth would be much colder than it is.

But human activity is pouring CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere at an unprecedented rate. Most scientists agree that, if left unchecked, this will lead to average global temperatures rising faster than at any time over the past ten thousand years.

Scientists are not yet able to say if the Great Storm of 1987 and the 'hurricanes' of 1989 and 1990 are among the first signs of Global Warming. These storms did, however, remind us of our vulnerability to extreme weather conditions.

If left unchecked, Global Warming is likely to change existing weather patterns across the world. Sea levels will rise, posing a serious threat to low-lying areas like Bangladesh and, nearer home, East Anglia. Patterns of agriculture everywhere would have to alter and plants and animals be forced to adapt to new conditions. Those which don't adapt fast enough could face extinction.

The world's governments are taking Global Warming

very seriously. The UK Government is taking a leading role in the global agreement on climate change due to be signed during the Earth Summit in Brazil in 1992.

Government studies suggest that if action is not taken now, emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> (the major greenhouse gas) will increase significantly over the next fifteen years. Our first task must be to stop that increase. Britain aims to return its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2005.

Carbon dioxide is generated when we use electricity produced by burning fossil fuels in power stations, or when we use coal, oil or gas.

Energy is used at home, at work, in industry and in transport. Over a quarter of our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions come from the energy we use in our homes. Industry and transport are being looked at for ways that they can help meet our target, but it's in the home that each of us can make our greatest contribution to energy efficiency.

By adopting a few straightforward measures we can cut our fuel bills by 20% or more, with a corresponding drop in the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> produced.

From insulating cavity walls and draught-proofing doors and windows to simply switching off lights, there are literally dozens

of things that each of us can do to help. If we all act together we will have an immense impact. This advertisement marks the start of a national campaign to encourage that effort.

For more details about how to make your home more energy efficient, please telephone 0345 247 347, for only the cost of a local call.

Or complete the coupon and send it to: Helping the Earth Begins at Home, P.O. Box 200, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire CV37 9ZZ.

For a free information pack, please telephone 0345 247 347, for only the cost of a local call, or send this coupon to: Helping the Earth Begins at Home, P.O. Box 200, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire CV37 9ZZ.

Name Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms \_\_\_\_\_ (Please print)  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

My home is \_\_\_\_\_ years old and is heated by \_\_\_\_\_

Gas ☐ Electricity ☐ Other ☐ (Please tick)

Tick here if you would not like your name to be included in our mailing list for further information about home energy efficiency.





## Blunder by Home Office reveals 11% spending rise

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A RISE of 40 per cent in spending on the immigration service next year to handle the record number of people seeking asylum in Britain was disclosed 24 hours ahead of the autumn statement in a Home Office blunder yesterday.

As a result of an "administrative error", a press release giving details of Kenneth Baker's settlement with the Treasury, amounting to an 11 per cent increase on law and order next year, was issued a day early.

The extra spending, to be outlined today, will be devoted to fulfilling Mr Baker's pledges to recruit an extra 1,000 police officers, tighten jail security, and stopping out in prisons, reinforce the im-

migration service, and to make extra funds available for victim support and marriage guidance.

Spending on the immigration service is to go up in 1992-3 by £48 million, to £166 million. The government is pledged to recruit 751 extra immigration staff to speed the handling of applications for political asylum.

Applications are running at about 1,000 a week. Ministers believe that many asylum seekers are bogus and are trying to avoid immigration controls. "This will enable us to deal quickly and fairly with the growing numbers of people arriving in the UK to seek asylum as well as to deal with extra passenger traffic when the Channel tunnel is completed," Mr Baker says in the release.

He adds that the need to control public spending means it is impossible to satisfy all demands on Home Office services. "Nonetheless, this is a balanced package which addresses our main priorities and should enable us to meet our objectives as effectively, efficiently and economically as possible."

The 11 per cent increase takes Home Office spending from £5,390 million in 1991-2 to £5,980 million in 1992-3, £6,390 million in 1993-4 and £6,660 million in 1994-5.

Increased provision for the police would allow recruitment of an extra 937 officers, bringing maximum possible strength in forces throughout England and Wales to more than 129,000, a rise of nearly 10,400, or 9 per cent, over the past 12 years. The Metropolitan Police would have resources for 300 additional operational officers in 1992-3.



### NUM falls foul of the House

The Yorkshire branch of the National Union of Mineworkers has been reprimanded by the Commons privileges committee for issuing an "implicit and improper" threat against Kevin Barron, Labour MP for Rother Valley. Mr Barron, Labour's coal industry spokesman who is sponsored by the union, had complained to the committee after receiving "guidelines" from the Yorkshire area council on union policy.

### Parking fines

The number of parking fines owed by diplomatic missions in London fell in the first six months of this year compared with the corresponding period last year but still numbered 3,000. Mark Lemmon-Boyd, Foreign Office under secretary, said in a written reply. Saudi Arabia was the worst offender with 194 fines outstanding. The Soviet Union came next with 164 and Kuwait third with 165.

### Home help

Home buyers on income support are to have their mortgage interest paid direct to lenders under arrangements being made by the social security department, Nicholas Scott, the minister, said in a written reply.

### Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Environment. Continuation of debate on the Queen's Speech (council tax). Lords (2.30): Continuation of debate on the Queen's Speech (home and social affairs and education).

## MacGregor outlines Commons reform

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MPs might consider all-night sittings a virility symbol, but the public did not. John MacGregor, leader of the Commons, said yesterday.

Instead, he put forward a package of changes to give MPs a four-day week, with the Commons rising at 10pm and some debates in the morning.

At the first public session of the special Commons committee investigating MPs' hours, members complained that the present system destroyed any chance of a normal family life for many MPs, particularly young mothers and those with far-flung constituencies.

Alistair Burt, Conservative MP for Bury North, said that as an MP with a young family he found that the combination of constituency and parliamentary duties distorted family life. He called for a firm rule to finish Commons business at 10pm.

Mr MacGregor recommended: no Friday sittings; some Monday to Thursday morning sittings; more use of guillotine for limiting debate on changes to bills; abolition of time limits on speeches; a 30-minute limit on questions after the Thursday statement on the next week's business; abolition of holiday

adjournment debates; and less time to be spent on set-piece debates such as the Queen's Speech, the Budget and defence estimates.

In his evidence, he said: "Few would deny that there is scope now to waste time, whether through bogus points of order, filibustering or otherwise. Scope for such abuse of procedures will not simply disappear if our sittings arrangements change."

In a questionnaire returned by 444 of the 650 MPs more than half said that they wanted a reduction in the total Commons hours and more than 83 per cent called for fewer late sittings. There was also support from most MPs for a fixed parliamentary year.

Mr MacGregor made clear to the committee that he was committed to a new regime for the Commons. Government bills and business were responsible for filling only half the parliamentary hours and whether reforms resulted in shorter hours rested largely on MPs exercising a degree of self-discipline.

Mr MacGregor also promised the committee that he would consider making it unnecessary for seriously ill MPs to be brought in for crucial votes if the "usual channels" between the parties failed.

## NHS sticks firmly as the big concern



Patten: playing election games the matey way

David Ward will break the habit of a lifetime tomorrow to cast his vote for the Liberal Democrats.

For a man who has given his support to every Tory prime minister since Winston Churchill it is something of a wrench, but unemployment and a second recession have led him to desert the Tories. If his act of disloyalty is repeated across the Langthorpe constituency, then the Conservatives will lose their grip on the North-East marginal seat that they held at the last general election with a majority of 2,038.

As Labour and the opinion polls declare that the future of the national health service remains the key issue on the doorstep, it is clear that an undercurrent of concern and long-term fear over the region's future economic prospects is causing many Tories to waver.

Mr Ward, a 64-year-old former process operator who was made redundant from ICI eight years ago, said: "I have voted for the Tories for 40 years, but not any more. Look at what they have done to this country. They have flattened our manufacturing

**Richard Ford**  
hears the worries of anxious voters

industry so that all we can do now is build plants in which the Japanese make cars." As he carried his shopping in Guisborough, he added: "The health service and transport are in a terrible state. What is the future for us?"

Such is the management of modern by-elections that no hint of that kind of criticism was allowed to intrude into Chris Patten's brief walk along the town's Westgate yesterday. The Tory party chairman was at his most matey, shouting "wotcha" at shoppers pressed forward to meet him by an advance team of Tory workers.

All the main parties are at the same game. Walk ahead of the national politician, find party supporters and provide them with an introduction that makes a good photo-opportunity for the next day's paper or television news programme. The determined step

and icy stare of others is quickly seen as an opponent on whom no time should be wasted. Apart from those who are clearly flattered to have senior political figures in their midst, most of the electioneering is ignored by the rest of the public.

Mr Patten had told the Tories' daily press conference earlier that their vote had remained remarkably solid and predicted that the candidate, Michael Bates, would win tomorrow's by-election. "I do not see the confidence one would expect in the Labour campaign, in a classic marginal seat in a by-election at the tailend of a recession", Mr Patten said. He added that Labour had ignored the good news about Britain and the northeast.

Labour has run a twin-track campaign highlighting Tory policies on the health service and the underlying uncertainty about the economy. Yet Tory questions about how Labour would pay for its plans has struck home with voters sceptical about the Opposition's plans for education, training and health.

## Quick! Improvise a sketch show using these two props.



TONIGHT TONY SLATTERY AND MIKE McSHANE, THE STARS OF 'WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY?' SHOW OFF THEIR QUICK-WITTED HUMOUR IN 'S&M'—THE FIRST EVER IMPROVISED COMEDY SKETCH SHOW.

**S & M.**

KEEP AN EYE ON 10.30 PM. WEDNESDAYS.



## New leadership team in Japan blends rough with smooth

By DAVID WATTS, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

TWO radically different personalities assumed leadership of the Japanese government yesterday when the urbane and polished Kiichi Miyazawa became prime minister.

Mr Miyazawa, the only Japanese leader to boast English as fluent as any native speaker, is joined by Michio Watanabe, a former sergeant in the imperial army, as foreign minister. For Mr Miyazawa it is the culmination of a career in which he has served in 13 cabinet posts over four decades.

But he became prime minister yesterday very much as the compromise candidate after the most powerful Liberal Democratic Party faction — that of Noboru Takeshita, the former prime minister — had been unable to

field a leadership candidate. So Mr Miyazawa takes office at the pleasure of the most powerful kingmaker in the Japanese firmament, Shin Kanemaru, someone who has little time for his cerebral, slightly aloof approach to politics.

If Mr Watanabe could be seen as a fairground Barker, Mr Miyazawa has the bearing and poise of the nobility. As finance minister in the administration of Noboru Takeshita, the last prime minister but one, Mr Miyazawa pursued policies of easy money which helped propel Japan into the "bubble economy" of the late 1980s. This saw land prices spiral out of sight to the extent that the land area of the city of Tokyo and a single neighbouring prefecture was equal

in value to the whole of the land mass of the United States.

This unusual situation led, in turn, to the corruption scandals including, most notoriously, the Recruit debacle in which politicians were given the opportunity to buy shares in the company at bargain prices and enabled to sell them again at vast profits after the shares were ramped on the Tokyo stock exchange. Mr Miyazawa, aged 72, was implicated in that scandal and obliged to resign in 1988 in what appeared at the time to be the end of his political career. Without a trace of irony Mr Miyazawa now says he will do his utmost for reform.

His command of English is not necessarily seen as an advantage at home: during dull periods in the Diet in Tokyo Mr Miyazawa is wont to read either English-language news magazines or novels. When he does he finds it politic to cover them with a vernacular publication.

Mr Watanabe spent his formative years in the Imperial Army and learned his bluff style of diplomacy in the sergeants' mess. One of the gutsiest and most outspoken of Japanese politicians, he never shrinks from speaking his mind and once had to apologise to American blacks for implying that they were wayward and ran away from their obligations and debts.

Mr Watanabe was an unexpectedly close runner-up to Mr Miyazawa in the race for the leadership of the Liberal Democratic Party which carries with it the prime ministership of the country. He won that position through his leadership of the Nakasone faction which he inherited from the former prime minister with whom he shares robust views on Japan's role in the world and the need for it to take up such obligations as providing United Nations peacekeeping troops.

In the customarily bland statements that mark the acceptance of such appointments, Mr Watanabe said yesterday: "I'd like to make a vital foreign ministry which will be more trusted at home and abroad."

## Students maimed and killed in East Timor

By OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

DOZENS of resistance sympathisers have been killed over the past ten days in a new crackdown by the government of Indonesia in East Timor.

At the weekend, two students in Dili, the East Timor capital, had their ears cut off for possessing Portuguese flags after the last-minute cancellation by the government in

the students was given last night by José Ramos Horta, the special representative of the National Council of Resistance in East Timor, when he arrived in Britain to plead with the government and members of parliament to put pressure on Indonesia to stop the killing. Britain supplies a considerable amount of military hardware, including Hawk ground-attack training aircraft, to the Indonesians.

The resistance believes the Indonesians deliberately cancelled the Portuguese mission at the 11th hour, after three years of planning, when it became clear that the military would not be able to control widespread demonstrations and protests. According to intelligence fed to Mr Horta, messages between the army command and Dili indicated that the military could not guarantee the success of the visit.

The Indonesians gave as their reason for cancellation the inclusion of Jill Joliffe, a Lisbon-based journalist. She has written extensively about East Timor, which Indonesia invaded in 1975.

Nearly 40 Catholic bishops throughout the world have added their names to an appeal being sent to Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the secretary-general of the United Nations.

News of the mutilation of



Making her mark: Imelda Marcos submits to being fingerprinted after being charged in a Manila court with the first three of almost 100 charges that the Philippines government plans to bring against her

## Jubilant crowds revive subdued Imelda Marcos

From JOANNA PITMAN IN MANILA

A CONVINCINGLY subdued and moist-eyed Imelda Marcos made her way in ignominy yesterday to Quezon city hall in Manila to be charged formally with the first three of almost 100 criminal and civil cases that the Philippines government plans to bring against the former first lady. She is alleged to have siphoned away \$5 billion (£2.8 billion) from government coffers during the 20 years that she and her late husband, Ferdinand Marcos, ruled the Philippines.

Picking her high-heeled way through the filthy, rubble-strewn surroundings of the city hall, she was led up to a stuffy courtroom surrounded by armed guards, where she was formally charged in three tax violation cases. She sniffed loudly as she proffered ten exquisitely manicured and bejewelled fingers for fingerprinting, counted out £3,645 bail money and turned in distress to her lawyer, Antonio Coronel. The small and wiry

Mr Coronel, dressed in a white knitted cap, shocking pink shirt and shiny white shoes, slouched confidently on the court bench and fingered his diamond-encrusted ring.

"The reason she has come home is to vindicate herself before the courts," growled the man who will defend Mrs Marcos in all 100 of her Philippines court cases. "I have a fairly good batting average. My clients pay according to their means, though she will be paying high. I have no doubt we will win."

When the Marcos family fled from the Philippines after the 1986 "people's power" revolution, they left behind a rich legacy of allegations and rumours of corruption, murder and theft. Rigging the courts was one of these allegations and Manila's more cynical observers are already speculating about how much an acquittal might cost Mrs Marcos.

Even if she was distressed at having to pay a few thousand in bail to her arch rival, President Aquino, the jubilant crowds outside the courtroom quickly revived Mrs Marcos, who swept out imperiously, flashing ink-fingered victory signs at her supporters.

The woman who was accustomed to buying tiaras by the dozen and who kept galleon-sized jugs of French scents that sell for £55 an ounce, had spent the morning bestowing her greetings on the nation's hardest and most frugal farmers from the northern province of Ilocos Norte, where her

late husband Ferdinand was born.

Philippines familial ties, which come as strong as any tribal loyalties, have the capacity to forgive anything in this country, especially when there is a circus coming to town. Thousands of poor and ragged men and women tumbled out of buses at the local airport early yesterday, clutching "We want our darling Imelda" banners and scrambling for a sight of the widow accused at one time of sucking out of the country, along with Marcos relatives and friends, a sum equivalent to the Philippines national debt: £14.5 billion.

Mrs Marcos was assured of a triumphal welcome in this northern province which registered 95-98 per cent Marcos victories in all elections since her husband became president in 1966.

Ferdinand Marcos Jr, the 34-year-old son and heir apparent, travelled straight up to Ilocos Norte last week on his return to the Philippines, for a morale-boosting tour of the Marcos home territory. Like his mother, he was engulfed in an overwhelming and emotional welcome and greeted with tears and kisses as the long lost son of the province.

He has vowed to begin his new political career as the Ilocos Norte governor or congress representative. Many poor but proud Ilocos peasants already entertain visions of a long-awaited revival of the Marcos name.

## Rebels losing fight for a free Kashmir

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN MUZAFFARABAD, KASHMIR

Amanullah Khan runs the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front from above a garage in the centre of Rawalpindi. He says he is in trouble because "we have no money, no guns, no ammunition. It is becoming difficult to fight."

The front started the war in the Kashmir Valley three years ago but is being pushed aside by well-funded, heavily armed Muslim fundamentalist groups. "They have ten times the guns we have," Mr Khan

there was a danger of "civil war" between different groups, and said recent negotiations through intermediaries had prevented conflicts between him and fundamentalist organisations. "I am not a narrow-minded mullah," he added.

America has joined Britain in banning Mr Khan, aged 38. Asked if he was interested in peace talks with India, he said: "No. We don't trust them. We are willing to discuss our relations with India as an independent Kashmir, and nothing else."



Muzaffarabad, capital of what Pakistan calls Azad (free) Kashmir, tolerates a front office with armed guards in a back alley. But the relationship is increasingly tense, perhaps reflecting Pakistan's determination not to allow the independence movement to take root on its side of the border.

said. The secular organisation, which favours an independent Kashmir free of both Pakistan and India, is under pressure from the Pakistan government, which favours the fundamentalists. There has been talk among officials in the state government that administers the Pakistan side of Kashmir about banning the front, which is increasingly a political embarrassment because of its independent stance.

Rivalries between guerrilla groups in Kashmir could lead to Afghan-style battles for supremacy. Mr Khan acknowledged that

Pakistan's support for the fundamentalists has abruptly changed the nature of the conflict in the Kashmir Valley and led directly to the decline of the front, once by far the biggest armed group. More than 100 guerrilla organisations now operate there. Most favour unity with Pakistan, which demonstrably is not the desire of most, indeed almost all, Kashmiri Muslims.

As for Pakistan, it is plainly fanning the flames of the war in Kashmir and it is quite probable that some arm of the government is providing material support.

## General strike angers Pretoria

Johannesburg — Relative calm prevailed throughout South Africa yesterday as more than three million black workers observed the second day of a two-day general strike to protest against Pretoria's restructuring of the economy (Gavin Bell writes).

As a show of strength the strike has been impressive. Whether by conviction or by intimidation, black workers effectively brought trade and industry to a standstill as they signalled that no future system of government is likely to be viable without their approval. For their immediate goals, their strategy may be less effective. Angered by the strike, the government insists there is no place for trade union leaders in economic policy forums. President de Klerk is expected to reaffirm this view in a speech at the opening of the Transvaal congress of his National party in Pretoria tomorrow night.

There seems little doubt, however, that the disruptive action led by the Congress of South African Trade Unions will strengthen the hand of the African National Congress and its allies when negotiations begin on a new constitution. The strike has also reinforced the "trade union movement's claim for a seat at the negotiating table."

The strike ended as it began with sporadic violence. Police shot dead a demonstrator and wounded five others at Daveyton, east of Johannesburg. Two railway lines in the Transvaal and the Cape were damaged by bomb explosions.

## Senator denies call-girl claims

Islamabad — Senator Jamil Haq, a Pakistani politician and leader who supported the enactment of strict Islamic laws, has denied claims that he has been involved with a call-girl.

Mr Haq, vice-president of the ruling Islamic Democratic Alliance, said he had been implicated by the "forces of evil" and could not be obstructed in the realisation of his "mission for Islam" even if 50,000 prostitutes spoke rubbish against him. (Reuter)

## Torture claim

Security police meted out brutal treatment to up to 300 people in Djibouti after arrests last year, according to Amnesty International. Alleged methods of torture included the use of detergent-soaked sags, swinging detainees from poles as they were beaten, and the use of electric shocks.

## Ties renewed

Peking — China and Vietnam have renewed diplomatic ties after a 20-year break and opened discussions on trade and economic co-operation during a five-day visit to Peking by top Vietnamese officials. (Reuter)

## I have returned

Kings Point — A Japanese officer's sword given to General Douglas MacArthur at the end of the second world war has been returned to the US Merchant Marine Academy in New York State by an unidentified man, 18 years after it was stolen. (AP)

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## Israel softens stance on venue for resumed bilateral peace talks

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

PROSPECTS for an early resumption of Israeli dialogue with a Palestinian-Jordanian delegation have improved considerably, with Israel appearing to soften its position on where future talks should be held.

At the same time Palestinian negotiators won an important endorsement from their normally radical counterparts in the Gaza Strip. In Gaza chamber of commerce elections - in the absence of any political polls the next best thing in gauging public opinion - 13 of 16 seats went to supporters of the mainstream Fatah faction of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, which supports the idea of direct talks with Israel. The remaining seats were won by Muslim fundamentalist sup-

porters of Hamas, which opposes the talks and has waged a week-long campaign of protest against dialogue with Israel.

The results came after two peaceful demonstrations yesterday in the West Bank towns of Bethlehem and Tulkarm. The demonstrations were by supporters of the peace talks who were continuing their campaign in favour of the Palestinian negotiators in Madrid, who are expected to receive a heroes' welcome when they return home.

One question left unresolved in Spain was where future talks should be held. Israel has previously insisted that they be moved to the countries involved. The Arab side has wanted them to continue in Madrid or at some

other neutral venue. Now, however, the Israelis have softened their "demand" that the talks be in the Middle East, saying instead that that is their "preference". At the same time they have hinted that a compromise venue may be found, perhaps Cyprus, Turkey or Greece.

"We have said what we want," Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli prime minister, said in an interview late on Monday. "We prefer to carry out the bilateral negotiations in the region."

His conciliatory tone was echoed by Taher Masi, his Jordanian counterpart, who urged both sides to offer compromises when they reconvene the talks. "This is a very good start, especially after the enmity that has existed between both parties for so long," he said.

Sharon plea: Ariel Sharon, Israel's hardline housing minister, yesterday called on the government substantially to expand Israel's security zone in southern Lebanon after a day of further clashes in the south of the country.

Security sources in the area reported another day of artillery bombardments by Israeli gunners and batteries manned by their surrogates, the South Lebanon Army, which shelled Shia Muslim villages in the area suspected of supporting fundamentalist Hezbollah guerrillas.

Responding to the upsurge in violence in the region, Mr Sharon, a former general and defence minister who was widely criticised for his handling of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982, said: "The zone should be wider." He went on to suggest that the area of Israeli control should reach to the Litani river, north of the southern Lebanese port of Tyre.

COURT CRUISE O'Brien, page 16

## 'Executioner' joins Le Pen on hustings

FROM PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

WITH his cauliflower ears, battered features and heavy build, Freddy-Robert Moreau looks absolutely right for the part of personal bodyguard to the leader of France's extreme right-wing National Front, Jean-Marie Le Pen. A good many journalists have felt the sharp end of M Moreau's elbows over the past decade as he marshalled the crop-haired stewards who keep order at M Le Pen's campaign meetings.

But although he was once the terror of French professional wrestling, the retired "Executioner of Bédune", he has always been a cut above the party's usual sullen muscle men. It comes as no great surprise to learn that this urbane, well-educated man of 60 has been selected to stand as a National Front candidate in the north

of France in regional elections next spring.

If the latest opinion polls are to be believed, M Moreau could easily be carried into office alongside M Le Pen by the nationwide surge of support for the National Front. "I share Jean-Marie's yearning for the return of order in France," he observes. He has been involved in politics since campaigning for the candidate of the mainstream conservative opposition in Lille some 15 years ago.

Born in Ostend, where his father was conductor and composer-in-residence of the local orchestra, M Moreau obtained a diploma in "ancient humanities" and studied medicine for two years at the University of Louvain before moving to France and the spirit-and-law world of wrestling. His mother was a secretary but he needed the money to live on and it was something in his "The Executioner" over-played the part of big bad guy against crowd-pleasing opponents.

As M Moreau recalled in the newspaper *Libération*, he soon became the most hated figure in the ring in all France, booed and hissed with relish, frequently showered with beer cans and rubbish. Only in Britain, he observes, tongue-in-cheek, in excellent English, was he finally allowed to play the good guy for a change, cheered to the echo.

In 1970 he decided to retire and pursue his keen interest in politics. In the early 1980s M Le Pen invited him to help with the National Front's campaign for the elections to the European parliament: after the unexpected success of the French far-right, M Le Pen, now an MEP, asked him to stay on as chief minder and security organiser.

With similar disruptions on the busy A40 between Mâcon and Geneva and on the RN5, enormously long queues of traffic quickly built up. M Quilès indicated that he was willing to meet the organisers if all barricades were removed. But there were warnings of future blockades if government action is not swift.

In Rouen, strikers at Renault's large Cléon plant agreed to resume pay negotiations with management after riot police intervened on Sunday. In Paris, nurses marched to the office of Edith Cresson, the prime minister, and burned a coffin to complain about pay and working conditions.

## Protesters block roads in France

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT IN PARIS

HUNDREDS of French long-distance lorry drivers brought chaos to one of France's main traffic routes yesterday when they blocked the A6 motorway near Lyons. Organisers of the protest, staged by employees seeking wage increases and small fleet owners worried about cut-throat competition from large firms, said they would not give up until Paul Quilès, the transport minister, agreed to meet them.

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Moreau could only play the good guy in Britain

## UN woos Iran over hostages

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

JAVIER Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations secretary-general, yesterday sent Abdulrahman Farah as his envoy to study the damage inflicted on Iran by its eight-year war with Iraq. Diplomats said the move was part of a diplomatic initiative to secure Tehran's help in achieving the release of the remaining Western hostages in Lebanon.

UN officials said a commission might be set up to study the origins of the war and to assign blame. Iraq is generally assumed to have started the war, but Iran wants the UN to confirm this so that it can apply for reparations from Baghdad. Tehran is furious that the UN has already established a body to force Iraq to pay compensation to countries and companies affected by the war to free Kuwait.

Reports that the United States could even make an \$800 million (£450 million) profit from leading the coalition against Iraq have done little to smooth ruffled Iranian feathers. Mr Farah, a Somali-born diplomat, will be in Iran for three weeks.

WASHINGTON NOTEBOOK by Martin Fletcher

## Autumn blows an ill wind

The penetrating whine of the first leaf-blower began shortly before 7am on Saturday. By 9am there were at least three going. By midday the neighbourhood vibrated to the calibrated buzzing of perhaps a dozen of the wretched machines that are now as standard a fixture in the American "yard" as the basketball hoop and gas-fired barbecue.

In England autumn may still be the season of mist, mellow fruitfulness and train delays. Here it has become the season of infernal leaf-eating machines.

It is true that the average American suburban garden is several times larger and has many more trees than its compact British counterpart. It is a fact that a 75ft maple can shed up to 700,000 leaves each autumn. It is also the case that bonfires are banned in the capital's wooded suburbs, the penalty being a \$1,000 (£360) fine and/or a year in jail. But in banning so mild and evoc-

ative a form of environmental pollution, the authorities have inspired a monstrous form of noise pollution that drives to distraction those rare purists who still toil to clear their lawns with outside rakes and

Tell him we don't need a leaf blower.



plastic sheets. In a nation so obsessed with labour-saving devices that it works double-time to pay for them, leaf-blowers cost anywhere from \$50 to \$300 depending on their sophistication. The idea is to start from

the back of your yard and advance in sweeps, blasting the leaves forward into an ever-higher ridge until you eventually reach the road. Overnight on Saturday the wind scatters the piles back from whence they came. You then repeat the process on Sunday, and by evening entire streets are transformed into valleys lined with leafy foothills.

What precipitates this activity is the appearance of signs on lampposts giving warning of an impending leaf collection. On the appointed day, the council sends round lorries which suck these red and golden mounds into cavernous intakes, grind them up and cart them off.

Bobby Smith, chief of refuse collection for Fairfax County, northern Virginia, reports that each year his 22 mobile vacuum cleaners remove 80,000 cubic yards of leaves from 1,800 homes. He has not the slightest nostalgia for bonfires.



Moving picture: a model at New York's spring-summer fashion show wears a skirt designed by Perry Ellis which is decorated with a film motif and an Oscar award

## Castro daughter pleads for help

By DAVID WATTS IN LONDON AND DAVID BARTAL IN STOCKHOLM

DESPERATE, and suffering from anorexia nervosa, Fidel Castro's only daughter is seeking help to leave Cuba, according to a letter that has been smuggled out to a life-long friend in Sweden.

Alina Fernandez Revuelta is the illegitimate daughter of the Cuban president and Natalia Revuelta, who was once regarded as one of the most beautiful women on the island. Dr Castro had met her in 1952 when she was already married to a wealthy doctor. Although she represented everything that the revolutionary leader sought to overthrow - with her membership of the Havana yacht and country clubs - she helped Dr Castro at a crucial moment in the revolutionary struggle.

Alina is the only girl among what is claimed to be as many as five illegitimate children fathered by the Cuban revolutionary.

Alina, a former model, has already made several attempts to flee Cuba. When her friend, Alfredo García de Santamarina, visited her late last year she had told him that if her situation became desperate and further attempts to leave Havana became impossible she would include the phrase "The rainbow is beautiful" in a letter. Recently he received a letter saying: "The rainbow is fantastic." In it she says that she has been refused permission to work or travel abroad, most recently to Paris, and that her telephone is constantly out of order.

Officially Dr Castro's only child is a son, Fidelito, from

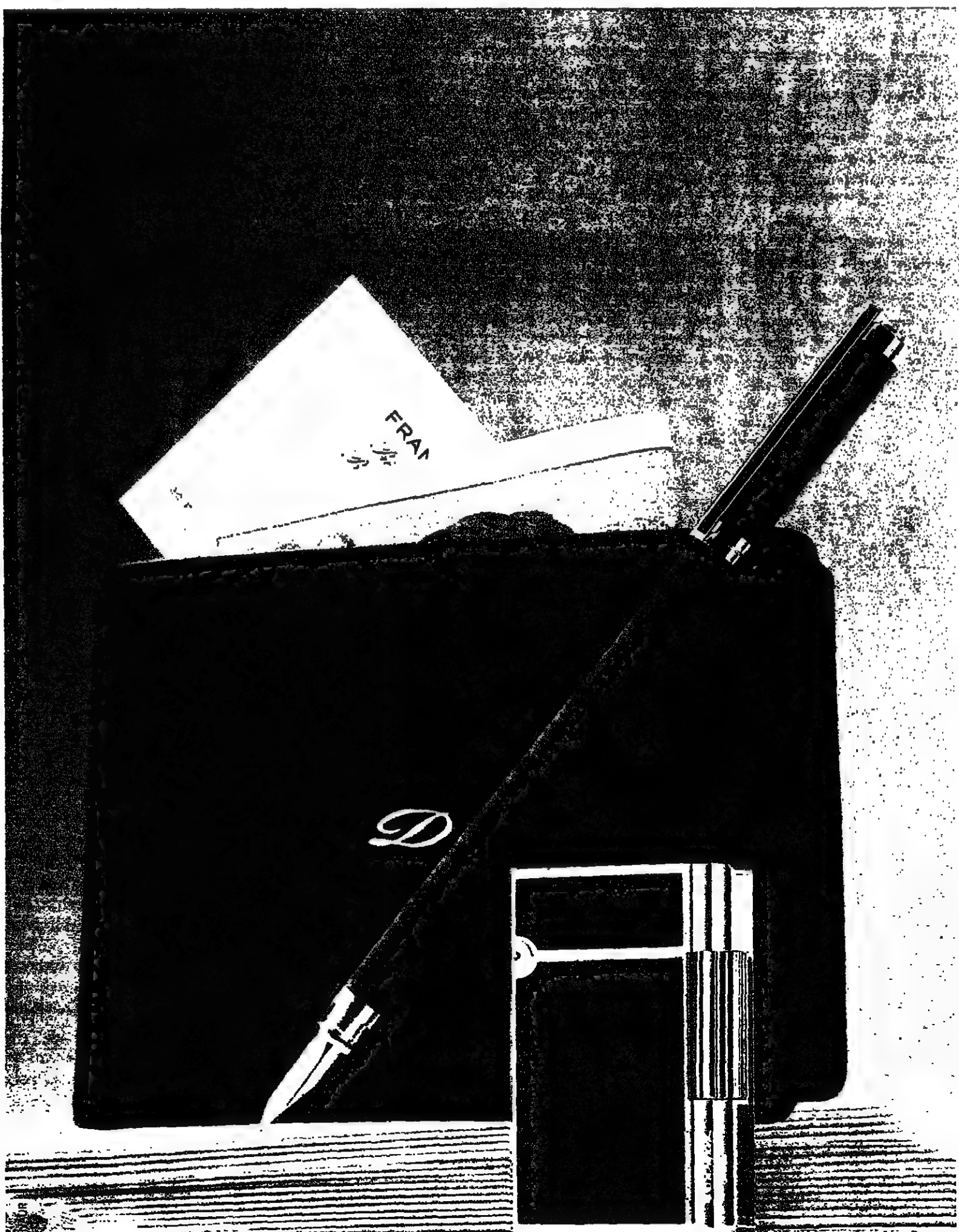
his marriage to Mirta Diaz Balart, who runs the nuclear institute in Havana. Though the relationship of Dr Castro and his daughter is supposed to be a secret it is widely known in Cuba.

In reality Natalia Revuelta was just one of several mistresses in Dr Castro's life. She was soon to be replaced in his affections by a dark-haired beauty of Spanish descent, Gloria Gaitan. Like her predecessor, she too was married but seems to have been completely overwhelmed by the presence of a leader who then was at the height of his mesmerising powers.

## Palace attacked in Lima

Lima - Left-wing guerrillas are suspected of firing rifle-propelled grenades at Peru's presidential palace yesterday. Radio reports said five people had launched the attack from a passing vehicle.

One grenade fell near the rear of the building and another landed in an adjacent street, injuring two policemen and a civilian, the reports said. Police defused two bombs in the area and put a security ring around the palace and nearby buildings. Initial suggestions were that the pro-Cuban Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement was responsible for the attack. (Reuters)



ABSOLUMENT

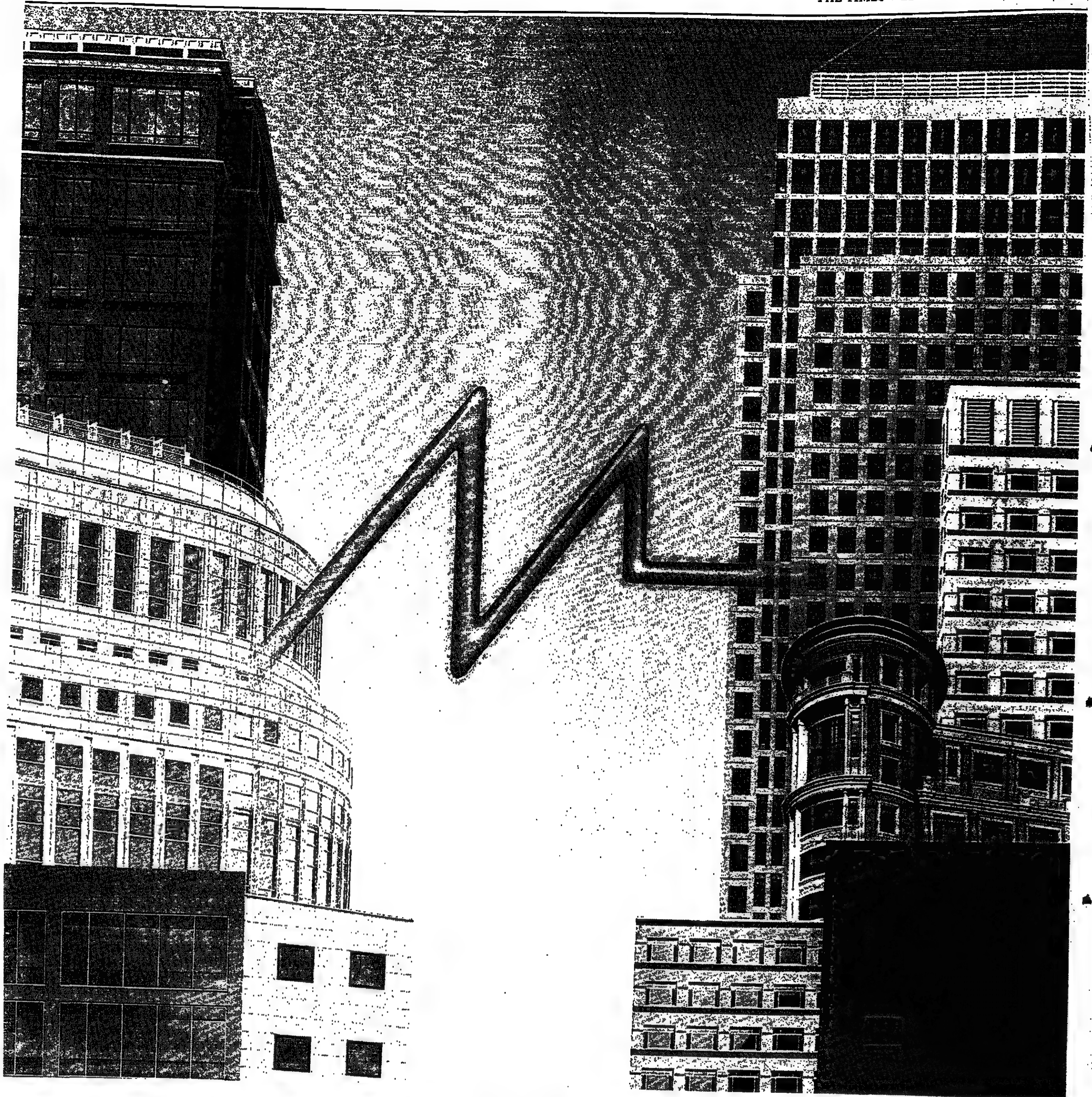
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# Eastern Europe on trail of scapegoats for its economic woes



Havel: reluctant to sign witch-hunt legislation

WITCH-HUNTING is back in fashion in Central and Eastern Europe as post-communist governments seek scapegoats for the impending economic difficulties confronting them. "It is time for reds to hide under beds," a Polish commentator wrote, only half in jest.

The Hungarian parliament this week amended the statute of limitations, allowing the government to treat former communist officials the same as war criminals. This has opened the way for about 50 trials.

President Havel of Czechoslovakia, on the other hand, has signed into law a bill that will, from January, ban communist functionaries or known collaborators with the police from holding civil service jobs for five years. And in Poland, the Centre Alliance, one of the groups calling particularly stridently for communist wrongdoers to be pursued, is likely to be at the heart of the new government.

The timing of the moves, almost two years after the 1989 revolutions, has been influenced by the new nationalist mood in East European

The time has come for reds to hide under beds, according to one commentator, as formerly communist countries replace earlier tolerance with witch-hunting, Roger Boyes writes

parliaments. The prospect of mass unemployment — there will be 2.3 million jobs in Poland by the end of the year — and the general distaste for the number of communists who have succeeded in setting up private businesses, has put an end to the relative tolerance of the months after the revolutions.

The new governments are determined to show that the present economic miseries have their roots in 50 years of communist mismanagement: the answer is thus not to stop market reforms, but to point the finger at the guilty planners and functionaries. Opinion polls in Poland and Hungary show that communist old-boy networks are a real source of anger. Revenge or, as it is more politely labelled, the "settling of accounts", is now a key theme in

newspaper articles, parliamentary discussions and café conversation throughout the region.

Mr Havel only reluctantly approved the new witch-hunting legislation and did so with the strong recommendation that parliament should amend it later. Alexander Dubček, the parliamentary Speaker, also distanced himself from the bill.

Mr Havel told Czech radio: "The most active supporters of weeding out communists are those who under the totalitarian regime had kept their mouths shut and are now ostentatiously trying to make up for their mistake. The law is aimed at the Communist party — but there have been eight million party members since the war."

But such calls for tolerance are being brushed aside. Jozsef Antall,

the Hungarian prime minister, was also inclined to ignore communist wrongdoings — only two secret-police officers have been tried since the fall of communism — but has given in to pressure from his party, the Hungarian Democratic Forum. Right-wing party members want not only a series of trials and a purge of secret agents but a clean-out of all communist and liberal sympathisers in the media.

The party's caucus leader recently called for "decisive action" against communists in television. In a party document, Imre Konya said the government had demonstrated its tolerance and could now afford to purge the media and put an end to anti-government bias.

Through general elections, Poland and Bulgaria have recently ended round-table power-sharing arrangements with the communists. In Bulgaria the communists, known as the Socialist party, are narrowly in opposition. In Poland the communists, though still quite strong, have been pushed to the political margins, which has unbottled the

anti-communist genie. In Poland, the Centre Alliance, which seems certain to be one of the most dynamic forces in the new government, is pressing for trials and the pursuit of communist managers who used their inside knowledge to buy undervalued shares in private companies.

Various crimes that were only sluggishly investigated while the communists were still a substantial force in parliament will now be pursued more aggressively: the prosecutor is already promising revelations of high-level political involvement in the murder of Father Jerzy Popieluszko, the pro-Solidarity priest, in 1984. In Bulgaria, Konstantin Trenchev, the head of the Podkrepa trade union movement, is calling for show trials of communists.

So, too, is the influential Movement for Rights and Freedom which represents the ethnic Turkish minority in Bulgaria: they want the party officials responsible for persecuting Bulgarian Turks in the 1980s to be brought to book.



Antall: forced to give in by pressure from party

## Carrington issues ultimatum to Yugoslavs as hostilities escalate in civil war

### Croat attack threatens peace hopes

FROM TOM WALKER IN THE HAGUE AND ANNE McELVOY IN ZAGREB

LORD Carrington yesterday threatened to suspend the Yugoslav peace conference in The Hague unless the 12th and latest ceasefire in Croatia is respected by Friday.

The Serbian government claimed Croatia had launched an artillery offensive on the town of Sid in the Serbian province of Vojvodina, killing four people and injuring 12. The official news agency Tanjug claimed a grain silo was hit in the assault, launched from a nearby village on Croatian territory.

This would be the first offensive on Serbian territory by Croatian forces and would herald a serious escalation in hostilities, providing the signal for all-out war between the two republics. A spokesman for the Croatian defence ministry denied the attack on Sid, claiming that Serbia was "playing political games" to distract attention from its behaviour in The Hague.

Sid has been used as a base by the federal army to launch attacks on the battered towns of Vukovar, Vinkovci and Osijek. Rumours have been circulating that a Croatian assault might be imminent, especially as local forces, many faithful to the ultra-right HOS movement, are dissatisfied with Zagreb's defensive tactics which have failed to prevent a massive Serbian advance into Croatia.

Croatia has carried out a successful counter-offensive in Virovitica near the Hungarian border in the last few days, regaining villages lost to Serbs last month. Serb re-

goes are also escaping into northern Bosnia saying they have been burnt out of their villages by the Croatian National Guard.

Serbia is now insisting that a future federation be described as a "unity of common states of equal republics and nations who want to remain in Yugoslavia". This wording is unacceptable to Croatia as it would allow majority Serb areas within the republic, such as the Krajina region, to break away from Croatia and join a Serb-dominated federation.

Despite a Serbian and Croatian pledge in The Hague to order a ceasefire by the end of the week, fighting continued unabated. Air attacks were reported on Karlovac, 30 miles south of Zagreb, and Nin near the port of Zadar. The army in the port of Rijeka, which supplies oil to Zagreb and central Croatia, has threatened a revenge attack after it claims that nine soldiers were killed by Croatian forces there.

Vukovar and Osijek came under heavy shelling all day. Croatian radio reported that the federal commander of the Novi Sad district, General Mladen Bratic, was killed in action on Monday night. Lord Carrington said it was useless to continue talking while fighting continued. "This not only makes a farce of a conference aiming for a peaceful settlement, but is also unacceptable in international terms," he said, adding that if the new ceasefire fails he will ask EC foreign ministers to decide further action.

### Genie of extremism turns on leaders

FROM ANNE McELVOY IN ZAGREB

ANYONE who is ill-informed enough to wander over to the Zagreb artists' club these days is in for a shock. Outside the ornate 19th-century building, where the city's creative classes used to gather, lounge beefy men in black uniforms, sporting armbands and rifles.

Sandbags have to be negotiated to reach the door. From the belts of the guards hang grenades, clanking like Christmas tree bangles. The body-search is so enthusiastic that it feels like a minor roughing-up.

The club is now the headquarters of the ultra-nationalist Party of Rights, rapidly gaining in popularity as Croats lose faith in the neutered nationalism of Franjo Tudjman's government, which has failed to hang on to Croatian territory in the four months of conflict. The party was once something of an embarrassment in a country longing for recognition from Western Europe. Now that this hope has receded, the party and its 3,000-strong paramilitary wing, the Croatian Defence Association, HOS, are becoming acceptable.

The leaders of both Croatia and Serbia, are discovering that nationalism, once unleashed, tends to turn on those who invoke it. Slobodan Milosevic, the communist-turned-nationalist who holds power in Belgrade, was warned by his generals and the ferocious leader of the "autonomous Serbian republic" of Krajina in Croatia that they would view his signature on the peace accord in The Hague yesterday as treachery. Mr Milosevic would prob-



Thirst for life: children in besieged Dubrovnik, where there has been no running water for a month, collect rainwater yesterday. With an allowance of only a gallon of fresh water per family a day, the downpour was a godsend

ably have preferred to sign and, in his time-honoured fashion, ignore the accord later. He is wary of provoking sanctions against Serbia, fearful that he could be toppled this winter if economic difficulties worsen. But he is even more reluctant to be on the wrong side if the generals decide they no longer need politicians.

Franjo Tudjman, the Croatian president, has similar problems with the Party of Rights. Its leader, Dobroslav Paraga is a former dissident who surrounds himself with fast-talking Canadian exiles of a dress sense and general swagger recalling the glory days of Derek Hatton. The

public relations operation runs smoothly. In Zagreb, they are not keen on members painting the black "U" for Ustasha (the Croatian fascists of the second world war) on their trucks — a familiar sight in eastern Croatia.

But the undercurrent of extremism cannot be ignored. "Ante Pavelic [the leader of the Ustasha] is a much-maligned man," said Mr Paraga evenly. "He was a true Croatian patriot and we carry on his work."

Late at night, there are bursts of gunfire from the building. The paramilitaries are noted for their soldierly prowess but also for a youthful over-excitability and a ten-

dency to engage in rough justice. The defence of many strategic towns and villages is in the hands of HOS. They are technically part of the national guard, but operate alone and are thought to be the only forces to have entered the besieged town of Vukovar by constructing a network of passages through the cornfields. There are blood-curdling tales of their brutality of Serb irregulars in a trap in Vukovar they call "the cage".

Zlatko Dizdarevic, a HOS man in Zagreb for the funeral of a colleague killed in action, said: "The night is our friend." He was heading back to the front to save Vukovar from "the traitors to humanity". The

Serbs? The army? He flushes an angry puce. "No, the so-called government, asleep here in Zagreb while Vukovar dies."

If Vukovar does fall, the Party of Rights will be quick to blame President Tudjman. In an attempt to regain control of the Croatian forces, the interior and defence ministries have accused the party and HOS of fighting a private war and sabotaging the government's authority in order to seize power.

Mr Paraga has threatened that any attempt to ban his organisation would lead to civil war in Croatia: "Mr Tudjman will reap the sour reward of his actions."

## Prince is invited to Zagreb

Dubrovnik — The mayor of the besieged Croatian city has invited the Prince of Wales to travel to Yugoslavia to help save the historic Adriatic city (Tim Judah writes). Pero Poljanec said that if the prince accepted his invitation "he would have to share the bombs and grenades with us".

Buckingham Palace confirmed that it had received the invitation. Palace officials said that, as with all overseas invitations to members of the royal family, they would have to be guided by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Mr Poljanec, aged 52, said he was inviting the Prince of Wales because he had heard that the prince had expressed concern about the city's fate. "I heard he was interested in preserving historical monuments," he added. "I would not be surprised if he came... I would find somewhere suitable for him to stay."

Asked whether security concerns might not deter the Prince of Wales from visiting, the ebullient mayor said: "He is not a child, he knows the situation in Croatia."

Dubrovnik has been besieged by Yugoslav federal forces for 35 days and is without water and electricity supplies or fresh food. The prince is the only prominent foreigner to be personally invited to visit the city.

### Tolerance plea

Berlin — German television and sports stars are to launch a nationwide campaign to urge tolerance and goodwill towards asylum-seekers and other foreigners. Two people have been killed, and dozens have been injured, in a wave of xenophobic violence that broke out earlier. (AP)

### Bulgarian move

Sofia — President Zhelivov of Bulgaria has asked Filip Dimitrov, leader of the anti-communist Union of Democratic Forces, to form a new government, the country's first without the former Communist party, now the Socialist party, which seized power in 1944 but lost control in the 1989 elections. (AP)

### Skies opened

Moscow — The Soviet Union will let spy planes fly over its entire territory to verify arms control agreements, clearing a serious obstacle to an international "open skies" treaty, Tass said. A Soviet delegation made the statement in Vienna, where talks resumed yesterday on the two-year-old "open skies" proposal. (AP)

### Drug peddlers

Rome — Fourteen Colombians, logging bicycles and a massage table from Colombia as they tried to pass themselves off as cyclists, were arrested at Rome's main airport on drug trafficking charges, police said. Cocaine was seized after police became suspicious. (AP)

## World Bank backs Soviet reform with \$30m in aid

FROM MARY DEREVSKY IN MOSCOW

THE World Bank yesterday lent its support to economic reform in the Soviet Union with an agreement to advance \$30 million (£17 million) worth of technical assistance.

The agreement was signed in the Kremlin by President Gorbachev and Lewis Preston, the president of the World Bank, and the assistance is tied to a wide-ranging plan to reform and develop financial institutions across the country. A further agreement on help in reorganising the agricultural sector is planned.

Shortly after the signing ceremony, however, the Soviet Union's immediate liquidity problems were underlined by a report from the Interfax news agency predicting that the Soviet Union could run out of foreign exchange before the end of the month. The agency quoted Anatoli Nosko, the deputy head of the Foreign Economic Bank, which has a monopoly on foreign currency transactions, as saying: "In the next few days, most likely in mid-November, the USSR could fall short of convertible currency to repay its foreign debt."

Neither the agreement signed yesterday nor the Soviet Union's month-old associate membership of the International Monetary Fund will help remedy Moscow's foreign debt problems. Neither can advance credits, and "technical assistance" means precisely that.

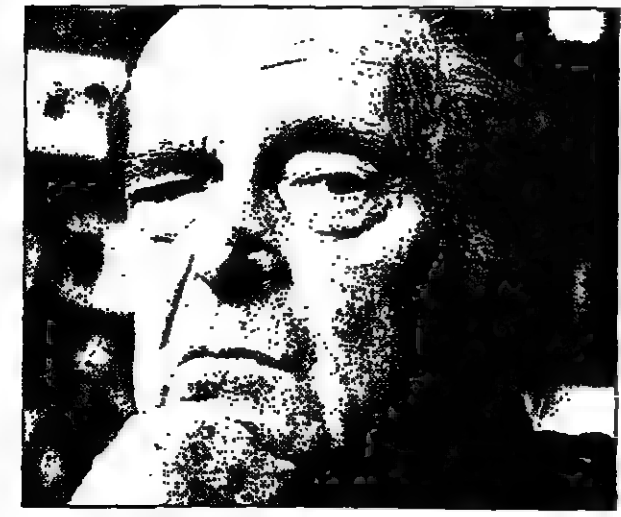
The head of the bank's department dealing with the Soviet Union, Russell Chet-

ham, was quoted as saying that the Soviet Union's application for full membership of the IMF was under consideration. But, he said: "We are not yet in a situation where we are contemplating lending."

Even in its technical assistance agreement, moreover, the World Bank has carefully hedged its bets between the Soviet Union and the republics. All its main clauses refer to "the Soviet Union and the republics", suggesting that it could be

dealing with the republics, rather than the centre, before the term of the agreement expires. Meanwhile, investigators said that they seized \$14 million (£8 million) in cash belonging to the Communist party after the failed August coup and have started a criminal investigation into the party's exports of hard currency. The Russian prosecutor's office, which is leading the investigation, said that it had also frozen party bank accounts.

When Grand Duke Vladimir Kirillovich arrived on a charter flight and was hustled away for a carefully scripted visit to the land of his royal forebears, his most devoted admirers were torn between excitement at his presence and disappointment that he is not, as yet, reclaiming the throne. "It does not please me that he is coming as a private citizen,



Grand Duke Vladimir: his admirers are torn between excitement and disappointment

## Shake-up shifts power to the republics

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT IN MOSCOW

THE Soviet government apparatus, described yesterday as an "ungovernable monster" by a former member of its hierarchy, is to be subject to thorough reorganisation and extensive staff cuts. Besides the 80 central ministries and departments whose demise was announced at the end of last week, the changes affect the pillars of the Soviet establishment as the foreign and interior ministries and most manifestations of the military-industrial complex.

The changes were presented by officials yesterday after Monday's meeting of the State Council. All were keen to stress the revolutionary nature

of the changes and the decentralisation of government functions to the republics.

According to Boris Pankin, the foreign minister, his ministry has accepted that it must lose up to one-third of its staff. Foreign policy will be co-ordinated by a council comprising foreign ministers of the republics, chaired by the Soviet foreign minister, and republics will be allocated posts in foreign missions. Mr Pankin said a representative of the Russian foreign ministry would be allocated a senior post in the Soviet embassy in Washington.

The Soviet trade offices which functioned alongside embassies in many foreign capitals are to be closed down, as is the ministry of foreign trade. Soviet embassies will in future have commercial departments and trade attaches on the Western model. Enterprises will organise their own relations with foreign firms.

Similar losses will affect the interior ministry, as many functions are devolved to the republics, and the proposed reforms in the armed forces, which include phasing out conscription and making more training republic-based, are to be speeded up.

Arkadi Volsky, the member of the inter-republic economic committee responsible for the

military-industrial complex, confirmed that ministries and branch ministries dealing with the military industry were among the 80 to be disbanded on November 15. He said that this would leave no single, central authority administering the vast Soviet weapons empire, and that defence-related enterprises would have to trade in future on the same basis as other enterprises.

While officials emphasised the decentralising and democratic nature of the changes, however, doubts arose about the soundness of preparations for the changes and how far the dismantling of the centre would really go. No official was able to estimate the number of people likely to be made redundant as a result of the changes, although a figure of 36,000 was mentioned.

Aleksander Belyayev, the city council chairman, has given a warning that there is a real danger of street clashes, involving liberals who have threatened to disrupt the municipal pageant with a "march of lamentation" for bolshevism's victims, and possibly orthodox Communists who want old-style commemoration of the day.

The 74-year-old heir to the imperial throne technically has been invited by the Union of Compatriots, a body which — at the behest of Boris Yeltsin's republican government — urges prominent Russian émigrés to reinvest themselves with their mother country. However, he is entering a political minefield by arriving amidst the controversial

festivities arranged for tomorrow — the anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution — by Anatoli Sobchak, the mayor, in supposed celebration of St Petersburg's recent reversion to its historic name.

Leading article, page 17

## Tsarists hail the return of Romanov grand duke

FROM BRIAN CLARK IN ST PETERSBURG

THE Romanov dynasty's most loyal subjects strapped their Soviet bodies in the splendid uniforms of tsarist officers yesterday and waited in the chilly drabness of Leningrad airport — as most signs still call it — for the head of the family to come home.

When Grand Duke Vladimir Kirillovich arrived on a charter flight and was hustled away for a carefully scripted visit to the land of his royal forebears, his most devoted admirers were torn between excitement at his presence and disappointment that he is not, as yet, reclaiming the throne. "It does not please me that he is coming as a private citizen,

like a tourist," confessed Gennadi Shumko, a pompous young man in a dark suit and bow tie who had come from Voronezh to represent that industrial city's recently opened monarchist chapter. "I would prefer the visit to have been arranged at a higher level."

The 74-year-old heir to the imperial throne technically has been invited by the Union of Compatriots, a body which — at the behest of Boris Yeltsin's republican government — urges prominent Russian émigrés to reinvest themselves with their mother country. However, he is entering a political minefield by arriving amidst the controversial

## IN MEMORY of

- 4000 young male Sikhs systematically beaten unconscious and burnt alive in front of mothers, wives and daughters in the first week of November 1984.
- It is common knowledge that police stood by and watched the carnage; indeed many participated. It is also generally accepted that two senior government ministers were actively involved in inciting the riots (The Times 30.10.89).
- To date not one of the culprits has been brought to justice.
- Today, 7 years on, the genocide against the Sikhs continues unabated in the world's largest "democracy" — despite condemnation by Amnesty International and the United Nations Human Rights Committee.

Reprint of The Sikh Remembrance and the Council of Sikhs, 21 Nov 1991, p. 1.



# Celebrating the creativity of the noisy nihilists

Did the punk rock phenomenon run out of anarchic energy 15 years ago? Matthew d'Ancona examines the evidence that its legacy of brash rebellion still exercises a strong influence on British culture

Fifteen years after punk rock left its grubby thumbprint upon British culture, a revival of sorts is underway. Exotically named bands such as X-Ray Spex, the UK Subs, Sham 69 and the Buzzcocks are once again playing their jagged, energetic style of music to a new crop of uncouth adolescents. Books on the punk era are being published, festivals planned and compilation records released to cash in on the anticipated wave of nostalgia.

Punk was a bizarre, menacing cocktail of avant-garde art, pat anarchist slogans and English eccentricity straight out of the work of Edith Sitwell. It caught fire as a movement because it followed a period of stagnation in British popular music, but also because it appealed to the most basic instincts of youth more directly than any fashion before or since, rejecting all forms of orthodoxy on any grounds available. It was a good noise, too. But should it be reborn? For the artist and designer Jamie Reid, the man who defined punk's visual character and earned eternal notoriety by putting a safety pin through the Queen's lip on a record cover, the renewed interest is merely a distraction from present concerns. "There's a tremendous tendency in Britain to label people," he says. "I'll forever be Jamie Reid who did the Sex Pistols. Abroad, that's not a problem, because there they see that my work goes through from the mid-Sixties up till now."

A retrospective of Reid's painting and graphic design has just opened at the 051 Media Centre in Liverpool and provides a rare opportunity to appraise the career of an influential artist who has, in

his own words, "run into enormous problems with the art establishment". Reid's parodies of consumerism and media language, from his beginnings as a Croydon agent provocateur to the designs he created for the Sex Pistols, are as arresting as ever. More startling, however, is the sheer eclecticism of theme and technique which emerges in his lesser-known canvas work, and particularly the recent



Sid Vicious: icon of punk

Celtic Surveyor series and the *Leaving the 20th Century* project, which he undertook in the early 80s. The exhibition fully justifies substantiates Reid's claim to be a multi-media artist "with punk rock written on my forehead". "A lot of my new work is to do with the esoteric and spiritual," he says. "The more you travel, study and work, the more you realise that there's a strange universalism which we deny. The other thing is that I was brought up a druid - my great uncle was head of the order."

On canvas, the result of this new mysticism is an often haunting blend of the figurative and abstract. William Blake via Jackson Pollock. Not that Reid has disowned punk. He remains enthusiastic about its spirit and the unforeseen achievements of its international diaspora. "Punk had effects on culture in the rest of the world. The classic example is Algeria, where it brought about a whole change in attitudes to women and teenagers." In Czechoslovakia, too, punk has become a form of cultural resistance to the resurgent fascism of the skinhead movement.

Far more interesting than the commercial revival is the creative legacy which Reid typifies, the spirit of independence and possibility which outlived the safety pins and ripped clothing. Vivienne Westwood may be Designer of the Year, but she has surrendered none of the originality - and confidence in her own excellence - that helped the Sex Pistols look so uncompromisingly different.

Her former partner, Malcolm McLaren, is currently working on a Christmas special about Oxford Street for Channel 4, a project conceived in his art school days with Jamie Reid. Since the Pistols split up, McLaren has often been dismissed as a charlatan and an artistic butterfly. But he will not go away.

Jon Savage, who wrote for the music press through the late Seventies, thinks that the time is right for members of his generation to assess the significance of punk's brash philosophy and what it bequeathed to them. His new book, *England's Dreaming*, is a monumental survey of punk and "its new shock aesthetic", and has a good claim to



Parodies of consumerism and media language: artwork for *Who Killed Bambi*, by Jamie Reid

be the definitive work on the subject.

"Punk had a kind of purity, which said, 'We know how we feel'. That's a very powerful statement, particularly in a country like England," Savage argues. "It is to do with a kind of anger, a wish to express ourselves."

*England's Dreaming* is an absorbing and rigorous book which tells a remarkable tale. The artistic and theoretical currents which flowed into the melting pot of punk are explored with a sure hand, but the zest of Savage's writing lies in the sympathetic attention he pays to the human consequences of the movement. The book does much to explain the inspirational character of punk, the twitchy hand it held out to those who wanted to create and protest but did not know how.

"Punk had an approach that has not been equalled since. It really said you could get up and do it."

says the American writer David Holden, whose short stories were recently published by Bloomsbury. Holden's band, The Nuisance, fizzled out after a few gigs, but the music had already struck. "No one seemed to be interested in my singing ability, so I thought I would write. And I did."

This is the curious paradox of punk. It celebrated negativity and disenchantment; it promised "no fun" and "no future". Yet from its nihilism came an extraordinary burst of creativity and a legacy which is still unfolding. Jamie Reid detects some of its grit in the Liverpool 051 Centre which is exhibiting his work. "I do not think there is a degree in here. It is run by people who probably left school at 16 and found their way into art and film and music and dance. It is part of the whole rebirth of Liverpool, this place. You would

not believe what it is going to be like by the end of the century."

The punk revival is unlikely to add up to much more than nostalgia and a useful opportunity to look back on a significant cultural movement. But this is as it should be. More than clothes and cacophonous music, punk was about the rage of ordinary people to find a voice and it performed its task with glorious ferocity.

The original punk movement was deliberately ephemeral, out to shock and then disappear. Such moments do not repeat themselves; only rarely is mere anarchy loosed upon the world.

● Jamie Reid's exhibition is at the 051 Media Centre, Mount Pleasant, opposite the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool (051-709 4500) until December 7. Monday to Saturday 11am-6pm, admission free. *England's Dreaming: Sex Pistols and Punk Rock*, by Jon Savage, is published by Faber (hardback, £17.50).

## SOFFING

### Sergei collected

IMPROBABLE as it sounds, south London is the new world centre of Sergei Prokofiev research. In his centenary year the Soviet composer is to have a permanent archive at Goldsmiths' College devoted to his life and music. Meanwhile, at nearby Blackheath Concert Halls, a series of Prokofiev concerts is inaugurated on November 26 by the pianist Boris Berman. The Prokofiev Foundation is being launched by the composer's son Oleg, with funds left by Prokofiev's widow, who died in 1989.

### Ton of laughs

AFTER 88 years in showbusiness, the comedian George Burns has signed a five-year contract with the Las Vegas Riviera Hotel and Casino. This will take him to his 100th birthday, which he says he plans to celebrate by playing the London Palladium. He has just published a new book, *Wisdom of the 90s*.

### Last chance...

ALEX Jennings' Richard may be less the mercurial charmer and volatile wimp created by Shakespeare, more the bold young man reported by history to have ridden out and confronted Wat Tyler. Ron Daniels' production may be a bit martial and forbidding in tone and style. But the RSC's *Richard II* holds the attention throughout. Last performances at the Barbican (071-638 8891) tonight and tomorrow, matinee and evening.

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Theatre and Music  
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## New angles on the Saxons

Joseph Williams sets the scene for the British Museum's magnificent exhibition of Anglo Saxon culture

WE all know what Anglo Saxon means. Or do we? How much Viking, Celtic and Norman blood flows in our veins? How did a bunch of marauding Germanic heathens become the ancestors of the English? Answers are available in Bloomsbury from Friday. Marauding scholars at the British Museum and British Library have raided churches and museums in England and abroad to amass the most comprehensive exhibition ever staged on Anglo Saxon art and culture.

Their hoard would make the Vikings envious: the Lindisfarne Gospels, the only surviving text of *Beowulf*, the Alfred Jewel, the York Helmet (recently discovered) and sculpture, metalwork and coins. The Vatican, which

rarely lends, has contributed a rare manuscript. And some exhibits, such as the Bowleaze Jewel, discovered last year at the foot of a cliff, have never been seen in public.

Throwing light on the dark ages is essential for understanding modern Britain. Our appreciation is befogged by legend: dragon-slaying heroes roaming windswept moors and feasting in great halls, and so on. But the reality is just as awe inspiring. After the collapse of Roman Britain, and two centuries of tribal killings, it fell to our Anglo-Saxon settlers not just to develop, but

to invent society. Everything was new - reading, writing, education, law, Christianity, history itself.

This superb exhibition suggests this sense of new invention. Here is the oldest piece of writing by an Englishman: the charter of King Elthelred. We find the only copy of *Beowulf*, the oldest royal genealogy, the earliest Anglo Saxon legal text, and the writings of Bede, our first historian.

This was England's first renaissance. From the arrival in 597 of St Augustine - the papal missionary bringing Christianity to the pagan masses - to Alfred the Great's death in 899, cataclysmic changes took place on a scale rivaling the Norman invasion. Before Augustine, no English school taught Latin. By the eighth century, our schools were the best in Europe, our polymaths were sought throughout Europe.

We trembled as we saw the prowess of Viking long-ships assaulting our eastern coast. But even the Danes did not halt Alfred's age of enlightenment: promoting education, civil service and defence. The collection hints at a forgotten heritage, but also shows how people lived in the dark ages. Bede hit the mark when he compared life to the brief flight of a sparrow flitting across a fire-lit hall into dark winter.

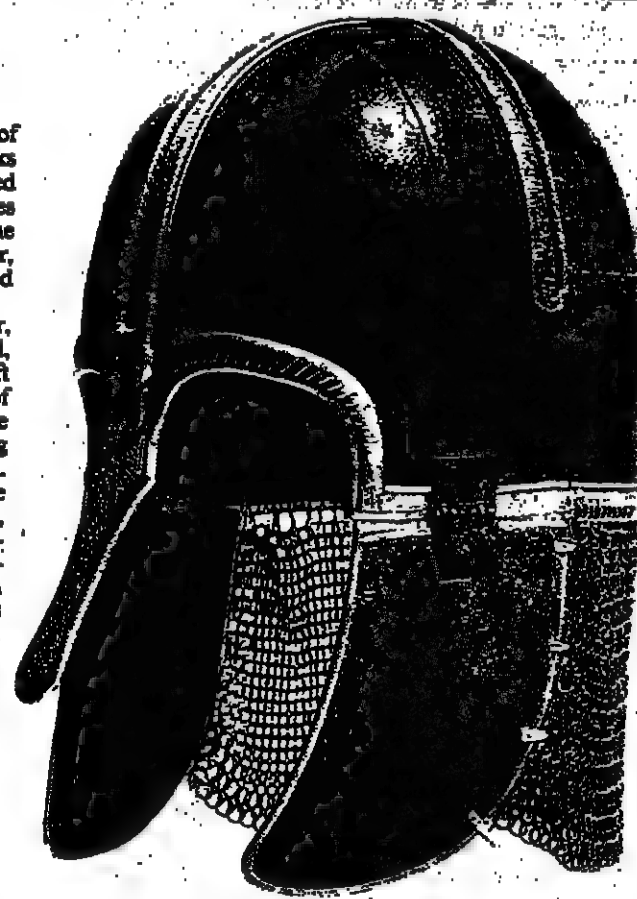
The Lindisfarne Gospels are exquisitely and painstakingly decorated on vellum. From Cambridge University come the illuminated gospels of St Augustine - successive archbishops of Canterbury still take their enthronement oaths on them - and Bede's *Ecclesiastical History of the English People*.

Yet the sense of Arthurian magic persists. The craftsmanship is a charm in itself: the pear-shaped gold Alfred Jewel; the bewildering array of

scenes carved into the sides of the eighth century Franks Casket. I would have preferred seeing fewer buckles, brooches and pins, and more of the clothes they fastened together, but the garments have rotted away.

The miracle is, however, that so much has survived, since what the Vikings left often fell to the ravages of time. Many artefacts have come from abroad, suggesting how many were looted or sold. Book-binding panels have been borrowed from Belgium, braid from Salzburg, manuscripts from Cologne, a decorative gold ring from Bologna - over 70 institutions have participated. British churches and museums from Scotland to Sussex have also loaned their treasures, which makes the spectator feel that the whole land is involved. With luck, we should lose the myths about the dark ages, but keep the legends.

● The Making of England is at the British Museum, London, WC1 (071-636 1555) from Friday until next March. Admission £3; concessions £2.



Recent discovery: the 8th century York helmet, made of iron with copper-alloy embellishments

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# Where men still club together

Many of the hurdles that prevent women reaching the top are in Mayfair, writes Alice Thomson

As John Major stood up to tell an audience of formidable women about his crusade for equal opportunities on their behalf last week, men around London were sinking back into their leather chairs or settling down to their spotted dick, secure in the belief that though they might have to share their offices with females, the sanctity of their gentlemen's club would never be assailed.

Of the eminent women who sat down to the Opportunity 2000 lunch only a handful have membership to the noble Mayfair clubs. The majority, if they have ever been admitted as a guest, will have been hustled through back doors, up different staircases and will be politely advised to steer clear of the bar.

Mr Major said in his speech that the old-fashioned attitudes which

*'A club is a very prep school thing. There is drinking and pranks and it can be rowdy'*



The smoking room at the Cavalry and Guards Club in Piccadilly, which has associate women members. Only two of London's better known clubs allow full membership for women

limit top jobs to a cosy male club would do nothing but harm in the long run and asked his all-male cabinet colleagues to take a personal interest in promoting women. But the cosiest clubs of all must surely be those where membership includes leaders of industry, law, commerce and two-thirds of the cabinet, but hardly any women. Mr Major himself only joined a club — the MCC — after he became prime minister.

Barbara Rogers, Editor of the magazine *Everywoman*, and author of the book *Men-Only*, a study of male institutions, says: "These organisations may be officially private but they wield an enormous influence over public life. Mr Major says he is trying to help women get into public life but he is not tackling how they get in. We want more people in public office we must tackle the old boys' network that thrives in these clubs."

"Gentlemen's clubs are perfect places to impress business guests, discuss recent gossip, adjourn after meetings for an informal but informative chat and make contacts," Ms Rogers says. "Liberal men who blanch at any other form of apartheid will excuse the habits of their club by saying that membership is necessary for their job. But if it is necessary for their job, then a woman will never be able to take their place."

There is no law which prevents private clubs from choosing only male members and, few of the clubs have ever addressed the problem of women. Only the Reform and the National Liberal among London's better known clubs offer full membership for women, although a number, such as the Carlton, allow associate membership. Most have sturdy resisted. Brooks' prohibits women before 6pm, while at the Beefsteak they can enjoy pre-

theatre drinks but are banned from luncheon and dinner tables. At White's, the grandest of the London clubs, women are not allowed through the portals. At the Athenaeum in Pall Mall, the club for academics and professionals, Sir Alcon Copisarow, chairman of the executive committee, says there is nothing in the rules to say that women cannot be admitted, although none ever have been. He believes strongly that it should be left to the members to decide whether they want women.

"People join clubs for the membership that is already there, so we have an obligation to let them decide whether they want their membership changed. A club is an extension of your home, and at home you can invite who you want. If members wanted women then we would introduce them. We had a referendum about eight years ago and we did not get

the requisite two-thirds majority. If the mood has changed in the next few years, we may have another." He does not feel that women suffer on the business side: "I have never noticed any benefits other than social and educational at the club. You play bridge, you have musical evenings, you read the papers. It is a place to relax, not work."

Charlie Bishop has just joined the Turf Club and, at 24, is one of the youngest members of a gentlemen's club. "There are really three reasons why I decided to join my father's club. Firstly it has a close association, which I like to discuss. Secondly it provides the cheapest place for me to eat and drink in London. Last is the socio-economic reason. In my job, property, it is often a case of who you know, and clubs are one of the accepted environments where you will come across influential people."

Although Mr Bishop is not averse to female colleagues joining, he does not feel that club members should be forced into having women. "A club is a very prep school thing. There is drinking and pranks and it can be rowdy on occasions with judges sliding down bannisters. It's like a men's changing room: many men would feel inhibited if women were there. If clubs are forced to admit women, we could lose the congenial atmosphere. Men would look for somewhere else to socialise together," he says.

The journalist Francis Wheen joined the Reform in 1979 to help with the campaign to admit women but has since resigned and has turned his back on all clubs. He visited the Garrick recently, one of the few clubs which women have made a concerted effort to join but where they have been rebuffed. "I found it nauseating," he said. "It reeked of chippiness. I

wanted to rush out onto the street to find a woman. The only club I hanker after is the University Women's Club."

The Equal Opportunities Commission wants to see the exemption of private clubs removed from the sex discrimination act. Meanwhile, Christine Freshwater, chairman of the City Women's Network, and a partner at accountants Chantrey Vellacott, feels it is ridiculous that segregation still exists. Women's clubs, she says, cannot provide the business contacts that gentlemen's clubs do. "A mixed club would give everyone a broader scope. Not all women may want to use them but the opportunity should be there."

If women are to break through the so-called glass ceiling, the transparent barrier that appears to prevent them from reaching the top in public life, no doubt many would happily grasp that opportunity.

## AND BRIEFLY

### Stopping the rot

ADVICE on stopping the rot, structural problems, heating, condensation or pests, even about home design decisions, is offered by the Building Research Establishment's new telephone lines. Dial 0898 122964 for recorded advice on heating, 0898-122 965 on dampness, 0898-122 966 on cracks, 0898-122 967 on dealing with rot, moulds and pests, 0898-122 968 for cutting down on noise nuisances and 0898-122 969 on design and sealing. Calls cost 48 pence per minute, or 36 pence cheap rate, and a free card will tell you exactly what each recording covers (send an SAE to the BRE, Advisory Service, Garston, Watford WD2 7JR, ask for the advice line card).

### A good recipe

ANITA RODDICK's salad dressing, Baroness Trumpington's bananas au caramel à la crème and Angela Rumbold's chocolate cake are among the celebrity recipes dished up in *With A Little Help From Our Friends*, a cookbook to be sold for the benefit of Women on the Move Against Cancer, which is aiding the Hammersmith Hospital's cancer appeal this year. It costs £5, all of which goes to charity, plus £1 postage and packing, from: Barbara Seymour, Opportunities, 13 Providence Street, Wakefield, 0924 290 310, or from Avenue Communications, 41 Beauchamp Place, London SW3 1NX.

### Host of hosts

CONTEMPLATING a traditionally fraught family Christmas? "People tell us since they've been taking in students at Christmas they no longer have family arguments," says a spokesman for Host, funded by the Foreign Office, the British Council and the Victoria League, which is seeking homes for overseas students over the holiday period. Host families or individuals are paid £7.50 per student per night (£30 for the Christmas break). Contact Host, 18 Northumberland Avenue, London WC2N 5BJ.

V. MCK.

## Working is good for you

A new American study suggests that women with part-time work are less depressed than others and stay married longer

Frissons of fear must be rippling through the housewife belt in middle-class America, where Mom and apple pie are considered sacred second only to God and country. For a leading American (woman) psychiatrist has concluded that women who work part-time outside the home are more likely to have happy marriages than traditional "homemakers" — or than those who have full-time jobs in the workplace. Furthermore, says Dr Jacqueline Olds of the Harvard Medical School in Massachusetts, married women who work part-time are likely to enjoy better mental health, and suffer less from depression of wives.

She has been troubled by the number of "traditional" marriages — that is, those with stay-at-home wives — which she saw breaking down, and the sad stories of lives that had grown apart that she was hearing from her patients. She was also intrigued by a woman's magazine opinion poll of 30,000 American mothers in which "62 per cent said they would prefer working part-time, 8 per cent full-time and 25 per cent staying at home, when the reality was that 28 per cent worked part time, 39 per cent full-time and 34 per cent were at home."

So Dr Olds organised a pilot study to test her theory. Her survey of 30 middle-class families, each with at least one child under five, seemed to confirm her hypothesis that happiness is a part-time job. "Husbands of women who work full-time are used to seeing their wives delegate care of the children and therefore find it easier to delegate family responsibilities. But husbands of part-time workers participate more in the childrearing and these couples have a sense of a mutual project that binds them together."

British experts working in similar fields to Dr Olds are sceptical of her conclusions. Dr Christine Dean, senior lecturer in Psychiatry at Birmingham University and in clinical practice at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, has

been trying to discover whether the acknowledged higher depression level among mothers of young children is due simply to being stuck at home; or to something in their genetic make-up; or to some element in the process of childbirth — using mothers with adopted children as a control group. "Women who are employed are less prone to depression — but I know of no study which has adequately distinguished between those who work full and part-time," she says.



Mother's pride: 62 per cent of American mothers want work

With no findings yet to report from her continuing study, Dr Dean says: "From my clinical experience, when women work part-time they usually earn less and don't make as satisfactory arrangements for substituting themselves at home as women who work full-time, so they're much more stressed. Also, the tendency is for women who work part-time to have to take on as much responsibility for the home and family as those who don't work at all."

A spokesman for the Equal Opportunities Commission points out that "they have only recently lost a judicial review to get the statutory rights of part-time workers reviewed". They still have no job security unless they work more than 16 hours a week for the same employer, and

have to work for the same employer for five years to have any rights if they work between eight and 16 hours a week. Until the rights of part-time workers are recognised, it looks as if that day will be a long time off."

Joanna Foster, chair of the commission, says: "Part-time work is one of our priorities, because we have almost five million part-time workers in Britain and 90 per cent of them are women. But so much part-time work is dead-end jobs that women go into because they have no adequate childcare and no choice. I really look forward to the day when there is some real choice for both women and men to work flexibly, and when part-time work is not the bottom of the pile."

"Clearly, where part-time work is good, it gives us all that balance that everyone is seeking. At the moment women work so much part-time. But British men work the longest hours in Europe, so families are losing out on a father."

By a fortunate coincidence for Dr Olds, she and Dr Richard Schwartz, her husband, who was also involved in the survey, both work part-time. They have two children. "We practice what we preach," she says. She acknowledges that her study is only starting to ask the right questions — and does not have all the answers. Although it might seem logical for husbands with wives who work part-time to feel that the women could still handle the lion's share of childcare and domestic tasks, Dr Olds insists that — in her sample — this is not the case. She realises that 30 couples is too few to be statistically significant, but hopes that her work will lead to future, larger scale studies. She, too, would like to see not a fundamental change in the nature of men and women, but the availability of better opportunities for part-time work, for both sexes, that is challenging and well-paid.

Few, in Britain or the United States, would dispute the desirability of that.

VICTORIA MCKEE

## WHERE IT ALL FITS.

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2 Dundee 01382 6470  
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5 Edinburgh 0131 234 8007  
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8 Aberdeen 01832 24801  
9 Glasgow 0141 607 0401  
10 Glasgow 0141 607 0401

LONDON & THE SOUTH  
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THE MIDLANDS  
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WALES & THE WEST  
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## Woodrow Wyatt

### Britain must stand up to the Euro-bullies

The best Christmas present John Major can give us is not to sign anything new at Maastricht in December. There is nothing in the 1957 Treaty of Rome obliging us to agree to a single currency, a Central European Bank or a political union with a centralised federal government of Europe as its object. What we joined was the European Economic Community (EEC), with the aim of promoting the free movement of goods, money, financial and other services, and fair competition between members. The Single European Act of 1987 was intended to ensure this would be in full operation by January 1, 1993. Despite mention of an unspecified European union in the distant future, we were not committed to the proposition that European institutions would override our parliament in matters affecting no one beyond these shores. Nor did we agree that our foreign and defence policies should be subordinated to a Council of Ministers purporting to speak and act for Europe as a whole, with the inevitable consequence that Britain would lose its independence and its permanent seat on the UN Security Council.

Most of our partners are anxious to race into ill-thought-out schemes turning us into a centrally governed, authoritarian, unitary state administered by unelected officials. We should not hesitate to use our veto to stop this stampede into unworkable absurdity. We should insist on no further integration until the Single European Act is honoured by all, followed by a decade of reflection. There are supposed to be no subsidies: they are huge, and those for agriculture are not the largest. To his credit, Sir Leon Brittan has investigated some, such as the French subsidy for Groupe Bel, the Italian subsidy for reconstructing its trucking industry and the Belgian for its airline, Sabena. Some subsidies are disguised. In a well-researched and useful book, *Against a Federal Europe*, about to be published, William Cash MP details ways of evading the rules. For example, a company in his constituency trying to enter the German market found its main German competitor had been given a free generator by the local electricity board. In defiance of the rules, only 2 per cent of major public sector contracts are awarded over national boundaries. European firms can freely buy British companies. In France and Germany British firms are fiercely obstructed by government.

The Commission has evolved a strange and as yet unchallenged doctrine of subsidiarity. According to this Brussels can override local authorities whenever it wishes. Hence Mr Major's row with the Italian commissioner for the environment over ruling British planning authorities. Hence, too, the planned Brussels directives about how our food and drink products should be made, named and packaged, even if they are entirely for British consumption. Searching through the pages of EC directive information I was staggered at the amount of pettifoggery interference. The charms of our differing national habits are to be replaced with drab uniformity.

A deluge of detailed orders is on the way as to what may be advertised and how, spurning our Advertising Standards Authority. The loss of advertising revenue will destroy some publications and force all dramatically to increase their cover prices.

Our continental friends are used to parliament subservient to authoritarian governments. Backbench German MPs may ask questions only of minor concern, and German civil servants can answer questions in parliament as well as ministers. France has had 17 constitutions since 1789. We are close to letting the French, Italian, Greeks and Germans write Britain a continental constitution born of undemocratic centralism.

## Brian MacArthur assesses the turbulent Fleet Street career of a newspaper publisher and tycoon

# Maxwell's paper chase

A newspaper baron, Robert Maxwell started the way he meant to carry on. Just after midnight on July 13, 1984, with the ink still drying on his bargain buy of the *Daily Mirror* for a mere £113 million, he summoned the editor of the *Sunday Mirror*, Robert Edwards, from his bed, sent round the Rolls and stormed into the Mirror offices in High Holborn — where there was nobody to meet the new proprietor.

Seeing an open drinks cabinet in the office of the absent chief executive, he seized a whisky bottle and pronounced his first words as Britain's newest newspaper proprietor: "Anyone care for a drink?"

That entry into his new empire was characteristic of Maxwell's extrovert, swashbuckling style, which continued the next day when he took the *Mirror* editors to lunch at Claridges.

As soon as lunch was over, he announced not only that he would start a new London evening newspaper within two months, but also that he would add a million to the sale of the *Daily Mirror*, and that his Sunday

papers would knock the *News of the World* off its perch as Britain's biggest selling Sunday paper. Self-confidence and ambition were characteristic of the man, as he demonstrated that day when he threw down the gauntlet to Rupert Murdoch, the chief executive of News Group, which owns both *The Sun* and the *News of the World*.

The taunting spectre of Murdoch had haunted Maxwell for 16 years, since he first frustrated his ambition to become a newspaper proprietor in 1968. On that occasion, Maxwell lost the *News of the World* to Murdoch. Subsequently, Murdoch beat him to *The Sun* and then to *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

Now, as publisher of the *Daily Mirror*, Maxwell was determined to show that he could play Rupert Murdoch at the newspaper game and win. It was an ambition that was constantly and infuriatingly frustrated.

Journalists everywhere have puzzled over the enigma of Robert Maxwell and the disparity

between his ambition and his achievement, his reach and his grasp — and today they will still be searching for insights into the soul of the man and what really made him tick. The very enigma, however, meant that he often failed to get the credit he deserved for some of his significant successes.

In many respects he lived up to the flamboyant reputation of some of the legendary newspaper barons, the Beaverbrooks and Northcliffes whom he so wished to emulate. He had the Rolls and the helicopter — and the fatal boat. There was the sheer physical size of the man, and his gargantuan appetite. And there were spectacular hirings and firings, and the big deals that he constantly announced but which often failed to live up to the advance publicity. Robert Maxwell became the first newspaper publisher of modern times to write signed leading articles

and to allow — even to encourage — his papers to give prominence to his own activities. His principal newspaper sometimes became a medium of personal publicity.

Yet unlike the two most successful British mass-market newspaper publishers, Lord Rothermere (owner of the *Daily Mail* and *The Mail on Sunday*) and Rupert Murdoch, Maxwell did not have ink in his veins and never had a gut instinct for popular taste. When he eventually launched a London evening newspaper, he was outmanoeuvred by Lord Rothermere's *Evening Standard*, and whatever new stunts the *Daily Mirror* tried, however magnificent its Bingo prizes, it failed to dent *The Sun*. So far, too, *The European*, Maxwell's visionary concept of a pan-European weekly paper, has failed to achieve its targets.

But if Maxwell failed at the

deepest level of his ambition, his achievements in Fleet Street were nevertheless significant. While Rupert Murdoch was still scornful newspaper colour, he saw the vision that Eddy Shah was offering at *Today* and ordered 21 German colour presses. In 1985 that was a bold move, but it took the *Mirror* group into colour well before *The Sun* and the *News of the World*. That bold decision has subsequently been vindicated.

So Maxwell was a man of big successes as well as big failures. *Mirror* Group Newspapers remains the second largest group in Britain; it makes handsome profits, and Maxwell built one of the biggest media conglomerates in the world.

One big question to be resolved in the aftermath of Maxwell's tragic death is who will control the *Mirror* Group, particularly its political direction. There are few enough newspapers speaking for the Labour party, and the *Daily Mirror* has been the only mass-market paper that supports Labour. It is important for the health of British politics that it should continue to do so.

# Settlement in the way of peace

## The Middle East talks defied the pessimists, says

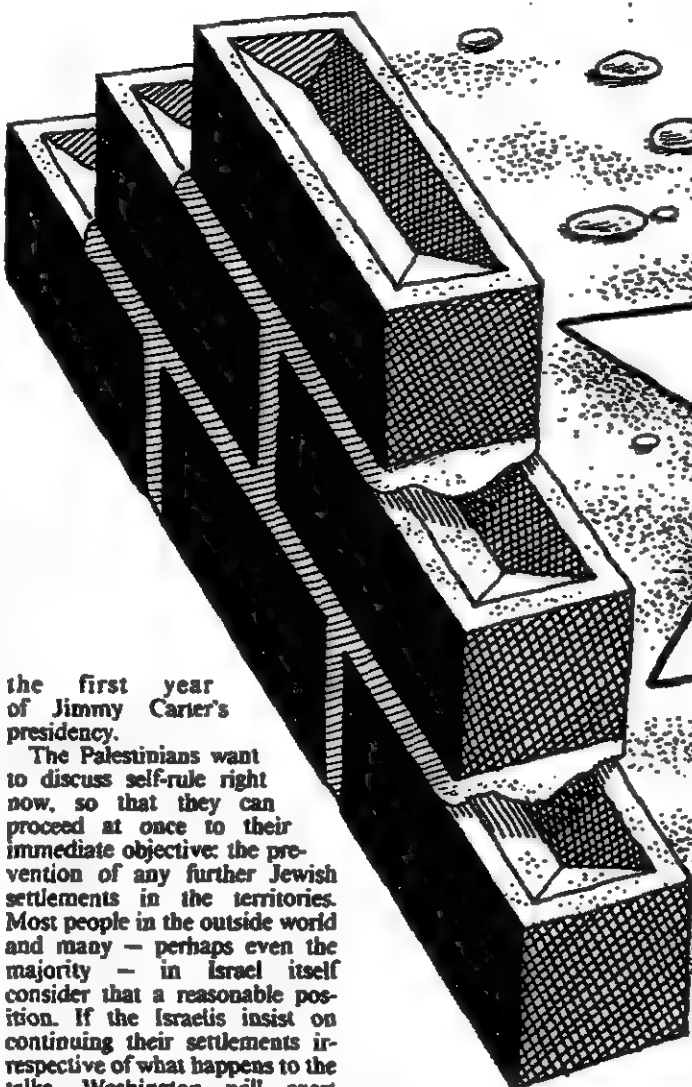
Conor Cruise O'Brien, but will not bring security

As the Middle East peace talks enter their critical second phase, the mood here in Washington is understandably upbeat. All the commentators seem to assume that the only problem is how to reach an agreement. That there might be serious difficulty in implementing whatever the negotiating teams might agree to is not a matter that has engaged anyone's attention.

Yet the peoples represented by the Israeli and Palestinian negotiating teams still hate and distrust one another. It is not long since Palestinian crowds were cheering the Iraqi Scud missiles on their way to Tel Aviv and Haifa. Feelings that go that deep are not likely to be banished by signatures on a piece of paper.

Because of the moderate character of the immediate Palestinian demands, there has been more progress at Madrid than was generally expected. It was the Syrians, not the Palestinians, who insisted that they must have territory in exchange for peace. Of course the Palestinians (in agreement with the Americans, and to some extent guided by them) did not abandon their commitment to "territory for peace", but they kept it in the background.

They are willing, and indeed eager to discuss self-rule for the disputed territories as an interim measure. As "self-rule" is a formula originally proposed by Israel — indeed by Likud — the Israeli team must take it seriously. As they do so, they will find themselves under heavier pressure from the Americans than any they have endured since



the first year of Jimmy Carter's presidency.

The Palestinians want to discuss self-rule right now, so that they can proceed at once to their immediate objective: the prevention of any further Jewish settlements in the territories. Most people in the outside world and many — perhaps even the majority — in Israel itself consider that a reasonable position. If the Israelis insist on continuing their settlements irrespective of what happens to the talks, Washington will exert tough pressure on them to stop. And they will not be able to count on unequivocal support from American Jews on this point.

Tactically, Israel's best move would be to announce its willingness in principle to freeze the settlement programme, but only as part of a general agreement (however temporary others may consider it) in which Israel's interests are adequately safeguarded. This would be a big concession on Mr Shamir's part, and would keep him on the right side of the Americans. He would have to eat many of his own words and face opposition from

within his own party, but Israel is in a tight spot just now, and some at least of his team will want him to appreciate the merits of such a move.

As long as Israel refuses to freeze the settlement programme, the Palestinians will remain united, but if the Israelis were to agree to a conditional freeze, the Palestinians would be caught in a cleft stick. If they failed to agree to the conditions, Israel would be free to resume settlement without serious objection from the Americans. On the other hand, if they accepted the conditions, which

would necessarily fall short of the PLO's full demands, they would face serious internal trouble. Many of the Palestinians in Lebanon are already hostile to the talks, because their own homes are in Israel proper, not in the territories, and they see the latest talks as leaving them out in the cold.

Such an agreement also would be unacceptable to many Palestinians in the disputed territories, for the conditions would almost certainly leave Israel with its strategic frontier: the fortified escarpment along the Jordan, allowing the Israeli defence forces access across the West Bank. That in itself would be enough to damn the agreement in the eyes of many West Bankers. But in addition,

Israel would insist on retaining East Jerusalem.

Existing settlements in the territories are unlikely to be uprooted (though no doubt there would be provision for a review of these matters after an interim period). Another condition of Israeli agreement to freeze new settlements, would doubtless be a moratorium on Palestinian pressure for the uprooting of the already established.

Together with a freeze on new Jewish settlements, the advantages of self-rule for most of the territories (as against Israeli military rule) might well induce a majority of the inhabitants to vote in favour of such a settlement in a referendum. But a large and exceedingly angry minority at the very least would regard the agreement as a betrayal, and its

negotiations as collaborators deserving death in these conditions of self-rule would be a stormy business.

Syria's insistence on peace in the region would almost certainly be cheered against the Palestinian negotiations of self-rule. At present it looks as if the Palestinian side will be driven on by the new Jewish settlements on the West Bank — will proceed faster than the Syrian side. This means that agreement over self-rule in the territories will be reached while Israel is still in possession of the Golan Heights. If so, Syria would certainly regard a Palestinian compromise as a betrayal, and would have to be prepared to face a new round of negotiations.

It is moving against the compromise, Syria would be allied with the Palestinians. All this could be a *quid pro quo* for the more serious negotiations over self-rule. The Palestinians would be able to see the *quid pro quo* of the agreement as a *quid pro quo* for the agreement to freeze new settlements. It is a *quid pro quo* for the agreement to freeze new settlements. It is a *quid pro quo* for the agreement to freeze new settlements.

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## ...and moreover

ALAN COREN

At the risk of boring you, I should like to tell you that the risk of boring you is, as of yesterday, something to be incurred by you and not by me. If, in the course of today's meanderings, you should find your own attention wandering, it is not I who am in trouble, but you. Not you who am, of course, you who are, just as it would not be you who is if I had decided to write "I who is" just then, which I nearly did, because I have never been entirely happy with that construction, a grammatical confession I might well have made to you if I had been sitting next to you at dinner last night, and you couldn't have done anything about it then, either, or write to your hostess and say "Thank you, that was a terrific steak-and-kidney pie, I only wish I could say the same for that bloody bore you put me with, why did he keep banging on about whether you should say 'the crowd was excited' or 'the crowd were excited', why the hell did you invite him, is he your bank manager or something?"

Because if you did, you might find yourself up before the beak, whereupon a jury might equally well conclude that, when it comes to grammar, I am not boring at all, and I would then walk away from the High Court better-off to the tune of £50,000, which, by the way, is one of my favourite tunes, not to mention a joke I might have made before, but even if I have there is nothing you can do about it, there is no law stating a man

can't make the same joke up ten times. There is, however, a law which states if someone says the man is extremely boring for making it, the someone will soon be looking down the wrong end of Mr Justice Waterhouse.

It is a very good law, not just for *Coronation Street* megastars or newspaper columnists (many of whom will now be licking their chops at the prospect of a tax-free bob or two, thanks to readers incautious enough to put furious pen to paper, eg "Dear Editor, this morning I fell asleep over the corn flakes, due to the..."), but for all of us who would prefer to be bored than interested. Because it will encourage people who have nothing to say to go on saying it at great length, and I am all for that.

I really don't enjoy being stimulated. It is too much like hard work. You are called upon not only to concentrate on the stimulator, but also to stimulate back. For me, there is little more horrifying than to be introduced by my hostess to a Booker-prizewinning former Olympic sculler just back from the Matto Grosso where, thanks to his SAS training, he was able to go native in order to infiltrate the heroin trade and thereby determine the potentially cataclysmic effect that the intrusion of illicit airstrips is having on the rain forests, because I shall not only have to take all this on board, I shall have to take it on board while simultaneously wondering what, when he has finished his

fascinating monologue (including an astonishing impression of an Amazonian Indian at stool), I am going to give him in return. He has probably long ago worked out whether the crowd is, or the crowd are, I am in the position of someone who knows the moment is coming when he has to buy his round of large Glenfiddichs and has only enough money on him to buy a small shandy.

But when the person next to you says "Well, I sell garden furniture, for my sins," or "I'm afraid I'm only a housewife," how the spirits lift! You know you are in for a good time.

You can stick the brain on automatic pilot and ping-pong happily as to why science has somehow failed to improve on the old canvas deckchair, or whether you should have a washing-machine that incorporates a tumble-drier and, if not, should you stand the tumble-drier on top of the washing-machine or vice-versa, and pretty soon you have expanded onto major issues of the day, let's face it, the fox is a pest, have you thought what one terrorist bomb could do to the Channel tunnel, these franchise things are going to mean a lot more tarty game shows, isn't it strange how people have gone right off digital watches, my personal view is that photos on driving licences are just the thin end of the iceberg...

But, there I go, chattering on again, I do hope I'm not interesting you.

## Theory and practice

ANY doubts that health minister Virginia Bottomley may have had that all is not well with the health service were reinforced on Monday night by some first-hand experience. During a packed meeting of Tory activists at the Roehampton Club, in Putney, an elderly woman collapsed as the health minister was answering questions about the NHS reforms. Mrs Bottomley and Jeremy Hanley, the local Tory MP, immediately stopped the meeting to go to her side. Hanley, who is also health minister for northern Ireland, raced out of the room to dial 999 and summon an ambulance.

The meeting, under the auspices of the Blue Riband Register, an organisation for working Tory women, was then diverted to another room to continue the questions while a doctor from the audience tended the woman until an ambulance arrived. After about a quarter of an hour, a flustered Hanley reappeared. "How is the lady?" Mrs Bottomley asked him with genuine concern. "They took 10 minutes to answer the telephone call," Hanley complained in a voice scarcely able to conceal his exasperation.

"Delays unfortunately occur," said the London Ambulance Service, which is currently considering whether to apply for NHS trust status.

Penny Proctor, the Tory agent for the constituency, says: "It was very fortunate that Mrs Bottomley was addressing the meeting, because it meant there were doctors present." In the end the ambulance proved unnecessary. "But it was just as well there were qualified personnel there, otherwise I'm not sure what would have happened."



Lord King is famous at British Airways for eschewing gimmicky advertising. So staff were surprised to see him pictured leaping in the air in adverts for the Prince's Trust charity. The latest issue of BA News asked the chairman why he had broken with his customary image of a no-frills, no-nonsense businessman. "When Kensington Palace ask you to jump," he replied, "you jump."

## Quiet please

NOT usually one to shy away from publicity, Kenneth Baker was incandescent over the premature disclosure yesterday of the Home Office's annual spending plans, due to be formally announced by Norman Lamont today. The Home Secretary ordered an immediate enquiry to find out just how one of the most closely guarded secrets in Whitehall — an increase in spending on law and order — was leaked.

For once, a Whitehall enquiry had instant results. Suspicious minds at the Treasury suspected that Baker was trying to steal their thunder, but the Home Office says: "It was an administrative error by a junior official." The sheets of paper were simply given to journalists 24 hours early by mistake. ITN immediately ran the story. "The Home Office did not

really expect us to give it back, did they?" asked a spokesman. Actually yes. A notice urging reporters not to publish the details until this afternoon was immediately put up in the Commons press gallery. Needless to say no one took any notice.

## Flying the new flag

TRAVELLERS who have braved the tortures of Aeroflot can relax. The days of the monstrously uncomfortable Il'yushin and Tupolev, and the worst service anywhere in the sky, are numbered. Last week, Lithuanian Airlines took delivery of a Boeing 737, adorned in the new national colours. Dr Tony Ryan, chairman of

You were last employed as an air hostess?



Guinness Peat Aviation, who seems to have cornered the market in the Soviet Union's former satellite states, says: "The Baltics have good airline structures, but their Soviet equipment is not good. We are helping out."

Ryan has also set his eyes on Kazakhstan's airline after meeting President Nazarbayev at the Reform Club in London last week. "We are working out the routes which will generate hard currency," Even Western-style hostesses are promised, in place of Aeroflot's more matronly figures.

"We are providing the crews until the airlines train their own staff," says Ryan.

## Early bid

IS Meridian, the successful franchise bidder against TVS, about to take over the airwaves prematurely? The company is in the middle of a secret two-day visit to the TVS studios in Maidstone and Southampton, with a view to buying out the company in advance of the formal take-over on January 1, 1992. Dianne Nelmes, a Meridian director, has been briefed to assess whether taking over TVS's studios is a viable proposition. TVS has imposed a news blackout on the visit. But, burdened by heavy debt, it is determined to put on the style for its successors. The TVS helicopter, grounded the day the company lost the franchise, has this week been airborne again.

Morale is now so low at TVS that stress counselling has been offered to all 860 employees. But the hardest hit seems to be James Galloway, the former chief executive. His mortgage and a dampened cottage in the New Forest, which has plummeted from a high of 80p to just 5p this week. The property went on the market on Monday.

Opera producers are used to stars walking out — tantrums, after all, are part of the operatic image — but Waqif Kani of Pundico Opera, who is currently directing the *Wormwood Scrubs*, "D" block in Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd*, has had more problems than most. A baritone's appeal came up, and the court refused him. Then a chorus member was transferred to another prison at a day's notice. "Putting on an opera is always fraught with difficulties," says Kani. "Trying to put one on in prison is enough to make you commit murder."





## QUIETING THE HOME FRONT

John Major's serious difficulties over Europe concern the substance of negotiations. Internal Conservative splits, this week's brouhaha notwithstanding, are much more tractable. The great majority of his party is likely to back any deal which he is able to recommend. But he does not yet know in which direction he will be leading it. It is impossible to say yet whether agreement will be reached at Maastricht in five weeks' time or what the terms will be. Consequently, recent newspaper polls of Tory backbench attitudes, suggesting that at least 30 to 40 would rebel, are largely meaningless. They have been conducted in a vacuum.

The government has clouded the picture by sending out apparently conflicting signals. Last March in Bonn, Mr Major sought to distance himself from Margaret Thatcher by talking of putting Britain at "the very heart of Europe". More recently, notably in his party conference speech in October, his drift has been more negative. This is partly a matter of negotiating tactics. It also reflects what Douglas Hurd yesterday described in The Hague as "the awkward but necessary role of Britain to ask the practical questions about the effect of a policy before it is agreed when others have been ready to sign first and ask after". British diplomacy has already succeeded in producing draft proposals on economic and monetary union which leave open whether Britain will eventually adopt a single currency. Even the sceptical Nigel Lawson believes that this deal is "at least something we could live with".

Britain's current negotiating position has the support of most Tory MPs. The community is divided over whether it should have a centralised foreign policy and a defence identity. The main sticking points concern the proposed extension of the Community's remit. As Mr Hurd has rightly warned, the British public is concerned about "over-activity" by the Brussels commission, and its insertion of its authority into "the nooks and crannies of everyday life". The cabinet is unanimously opposed to the involvement of Brussels in British social and employment policy, internal security, immigration and criminal justice.

The next steps will be Mr Major's meeting

on Sunday with Chancellor Helmut Kohl and the conclave of EC foreign ministers at the end of next week. After these talks the government should have a much clearer idea of whether agreement will be possible at Maastricht. Mr Major has arranged a two-day Commons debate in two weeks' time to state his principles and to hear MPs' views.

Mr Major wants to ensure that whatever happens at Maastricht, he avoids banner headlines proclaiming "Major fails". If an agreement is reached along the lines of Britain's current negotiating position, Mr Major need not concern himself that there will be any serious Tory revolt. Once the whips have got to work on Tory MPs, it would be surprising if many more than two dozen openly voted against the government.

There is no danger to the government's majority, only embarrassing headlines about revolts. Some of the rebels may, of course, be famous ones, led perhaps by his predecessor himself. But, as Chris Patten, the Tory chairman, brutally remarked yesterday, the leading critics are MPs retiring at the next election who do not have to live with the electoral consequences of their actions. Mr Major does. But he might view with a certain equanimity the prospect of being attacked by Mrs Thatcher, slapping her down, and then proving in the aftermath that the party backs him, not her.

If EC leaders fail to reach agreement at Maastricht and any later summit in December, Mr Major should be able to argue that he has negotiated in good faith to defend Britain's interests. No other party, especially the superficially more pro-European Labour party, could have done any better. The strongly pro-European Tory MPs could do little more than mutter.

The only way Mr Major can mishandle the political management is by failing to give a clear lead before Maastricht. That would confuse his party and risk maximising opposition after the summit. Most Tory MPs trust his judgment and are ready to respond to his lead. The test of his skills in the next few weeks will be his conduct of the negotiations themselves. By comparison, handling his party is a piece of cake.

## SALMAN RUSHDIE'S CHOICE

Today a committee of supporters of Salman Rushdie will decide whether to hold a vigil next Monday in Central Hall, Westminster, to express solidarity with the author, who has lived under an Islamic death sentence for nearly three years. The proposed vigil takes place against the background of negotiations for the release of Terry Waite. Two days ago the vigil organisers met the Foreign Office minister Douglas Hogg. There was what diplomats like to call "a frank exchange of views". The Foreign Office thinks the vigil might provoke Beirut or Tehran who will assume it to be officially inspired. The protesters think Britain should cut off links with Iran until the *fatwa* is lifted.

The separate ordeals which Mr Rushdie and Mr Waite have each undergone are not comparable, yet both are terrible. The most relevant difference is that Mr Rushdie still has some freedom of action. Mr Waite has none. It was open to Mr Rushdie to offer reconciliation by announcing his conversion to Islam a year ago, and by renouncing the paperback edition of *The Satanic Verses*. He thereby alienated many supporters, but he still defends his decision. Similarly, he is now free to choose whether the vigil should go ahead, following the foreign office discussions.

The vigil is intended to be a very public event, at which a declaration signed by 1,000 prominent people will be unveiled. There will be newspaper advertisements on Mr Rushdie's behalf. A similar event will take place simultaneously in America. The aim is to put pressure on the government, echoing Jill Morrell's campaign for John McCarthy.

The McCarthy campaign demanded a conciliatory approach to the hostage-takers. The Rushdie campaign wants a tougher line taken with Tehran. The captors of Terry Waite are thought to be interested in the Rushdie case. When the author appeared in public six weeks ago to receive an award

from the Writers' Guild of Great Britain, Sayyid Hussein Musawi, a Hezbollah leader, protested. Yet the release of Jack Mann eventually went ahead. The Rushdie vigil may or may not affect Mr Waite's prospects of release. But given that the consequences for Mr Waite are unknown, Mr Rushdie must ask himself what he can reasonably expect to gain from the vigil.

The sense of danger with which he lives may have diminished with the passage of time, but every so often he is reminded of the threat. When the exiled former Iranian prime minister, Shapur Bakhtiar, was murdered in Paris recently, all who care for Mr Rushdie will have feared for his safety. If he thinks that a mass vigil will cause the foreign office more vigorously to pursue his plight, then he is entitled to go ahead. At the same time, he must weigh whether a mass vigil might make him less, not more, secure. Publicity was Mr McCarthy's ally, but it is far less clear that Mr Rushdie will gain from being kept in the public eye.

His supporters are no less entitled to take part in the vigil than the Muslims who demonstrated against Mr Rushdie. Within the law, all who live in Britain have the right to express themselves freely. The desire to express solidarity with his plight and to rally world opinion is laudable. But Mr Rushdie himself does not only insist on his rights; he acknowledges a duty to other Muslims.

The decision is Mr Rushdie's; but the Foreign Office cannot simply abdicate its responsibilities. Rightly or wrongly, Mr Rushdie's supporters doubt that it is pursuing his cause with sufficient dedication. Rightly or wrongly, they fear his plight is taking second place to its wider Middle Eastern designs. If the Foreign Office is to persuade his supporters to abandon their demonstration, it must itself demonstrate that it is prepared, in its dealings with Iran, to show greater vigour on his behalf.

## CABBAGES AND KINGS

There is much talk of cabbages in Russia these days. Yesterday the conversation turned to the loftier theme of kings, as Grand Duke Vladimir Kirillovich set foot in his ancestral land for the first time. The Grand Duke is one of those rare beings, a man to whom doubt is unknown. His belief in the destiny of the Russian monarchy wavered neither under Stalin, nor Brezhnev. Since the death in 1938 of his father, a first cousin of Nicholas II, the head of the house of Romanov has lived as a tsar in waiting, rigidly attached to all the religious and dynastic conventions swept away in 1917.

At 74, this singular optimist glimpses his hour at last. While the parades on Red Square celebrated the invincible triumph of communism, he was derided as a posturing relic of the past. But old ways and beliefs are resurfacing in Russia. Young people, intellectuals, would-be entrepreneurs, the growing body of Russian Orthodox believers share nostalgia for an age gilded by the simple fact of not being communist. Sacks of letters and a growing stream of visitors arrive at the Grand Duke's French mansions. His views and activities are reverently sought out and published in the Soviet press.

Now he has returned to St Petersburg, a city that again bears his ancestor's name. Young Russians are donning the uniforms of the White Guard in his honour, amid fanciful speculation that Russia has come full

circle and a tsar may yet sit once more on the Russian throne. All this provides some much needed gaiety in Russian life. It reflects widespread yearning for a national figurehead. But few imagine that a restoration of the monarchy is practical politics.

The Grand Duke, like other East European kings and claimants, talks of the need for a neutral, non-political "umpire" who would symbolise national continuity. The complete rejection of communism and the popular identification of the tsar with Russian history, religion and culture might seem to reinforce his case. But a restored monarchy could easily become the captive of monarchist factions, the symbol of Russian Orthodoxy in a multi-national and multi-cultural state, the rallying point for old Russian imperialism.

Sensibly, Grand Duke Vladimir insists that his is a personal, if hardly private, visit. Less sensibly, he insists that should the people call, he would claim a greater political role as monarch than that accorded to Juan Carlos when he returned to Spain. He is sure to win many hearts, but that does not mean that the throne awaits. The Grand Duke, now free to return to Russia, could best serve his people as a respected civilian, much as Otto Habsburg has helped Hungary in its transition to democracy. He has some baggage to shed first.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

### Women at work: guilt, abilities, rewards, equality and discrimination

From Dr Helen E. Mason

Sir, I have waited for over 20 years to read what you have written in your leading article, "Helping women to work" (October 29). Could it be that women will no longer have to apologise for working part-time and for wanting to spend time with their children?

Women like me feel constantly guilty. Housewives accuse us of neglecting our children and the establishment accuses us of lack of commitment. What we really need is support, encouragement and understanding. I am lucky, I have always had this from my husband, my family and my work colleagues.

What we also need is practical help, such as that outlined in your charter for women (October 28) and your leading article. One single action on the part of employers would have an immediate and lasting effect on the situation. That is to allow reasonable promotion prospects for part-time employees.

This would enable many women to achieve the status and respect which they so often sadly lack. Women, particularly those with families, are very capable of taking responsibility, working hard and making decisions. They should not be penalised for also taking parenthood as a serious commitment.

I challenge the large companies and the government to change their regulations relating to part-time employment and to allow women the opportunity to show what they are made of. This is not positive discrimination, which we in the UK are so suspicious of; it is equal opportunities, which we claim we already have.

Yours etc,  
HELEN E. MASON,  
University of Cambridge,  
Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics,  
Silver Street, Cambridge,  
October 30.

From Mr Jim Lesier, MP for Broxtowe (Conservative)

Sir, *The Times*'s charter for women sets the stage for a long overdue debate. However, the last two items, tax allowances for women looking after children and elderly relatives, and tax relief for low-income families, overlook the limitations of income tax relief.

Tax allowances for the millions of women whose incomes are too low to pay tax would be useless. Mothers, particularly those with young children, tend to earn less than the £53 a week (married women) or £96 a week (lone mothers) that is already tax free.

A more effective way to help them would be to replace income tax allowances with basic income. This

is the solution proposed over many years by my late colleague, Sir Brandon Rhys Williams. Basic incomes are fixed-amount deductions against income tax, which convert automatically into cash payments for people whose incomes are too low to pay tax.

This year basic incomes of £13 a week for every adult and £10 a week for every child would be revenue-neutral, without increasing the rate of income tax. Is this not the sort of platform for "a better balance" of men and women that your respondents are seeking?

Yours faithfully,  
J. LESTER,  
House of Commons,  
October 31.

From Mrs Sheila Switzer

Sir, Why have there been so many expressions of surprise at the small number of women in top jobs in business, government and the professions? Most intelligent women regard the up-bringing of their children as the most important job they can have. They do not want to hand over the care of the children they have brought into the world to child minders who, however kind and devoted, have not got the same educational background as themselves. They are therefore simply not in the market for the top jobs.

Of course some women with children will have to support their families, and they should be helped by better opportunities for part-time work, flexible hours and so forth. But where that help requires the redistribution of taxpayers' money, it is much better that it should be channelled directly to helping them care for their own children rather than for the general provision of creches and collective child care. We have seen enough of what that led to in Eastern Europe and elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,  
SHEILA SWITZER,  
125 Long Road, Cambridge,  
November 4.

From Mrs B. Boyall

Sir, I wonder how you correlate your charter for women with the views expressed in your leader on teachers' pay (October 26) in which you clearly imply that people who combine a career in teaching with child-raising do not need to be rewarded at the same rate as colleagues who have not had time out to have children. The implication was that the latter were in some way more "professional" than the former.

Length of service in teaching is, and should be, rewarded; but to use length of uninterrupted service as a criterion of "professionalism" is to do a great disservice to the thou-

sands of committed teachers who are also mothers. Teaching is one of the few areas of employment where women have long enjoyed equal pay for equal work. Let's keep it that way.

Yours faithfully,  
B. BOYALL,  
4 Elm View, Huddersfield Road,  
Halifax, West Yorkshire  
October 29.

From Mrs Iris Hardy

Sir, Perhaps there are no women in Mr Major's cabinet because the men available to do the jobs just happen to have more ability. If Mr Major includes a woman in his cabinet now, will it be because she is the best person for the job, or just because she is a woman? How will we know? And how sad that with positive discrimination a woman will never be sure whether she has won promotion on ability or gender.

Yours faithfully,  
IRIS HARDY,  
Windrush, South Huish,  
Nr Kingsbridge, Devon.

From Mrs Mary Baker

Sir, Professor Anthea Tinker's letter (October 31) on the care needs of elderly people is very apposite to the discussion on how to achieve the aims of the Opportunity 2000 campaign for "a better balance" of men and women in the workforce: an objective that we warmly support.

Recognising the numbers of men as well as women who can foresee the potential demands on their time because of the needs of an elderly dependent, Barclays Bank now offers a "responsibility break" (part-time working for up to six months for men and women with relatives in particularly difficult circumstances) as well as five days' emergency leave for carers to see a parent home from hospital cope with other such urgent or traumatic family events.

This sort of recognition of men's and women's shared family responsibilities will be an increasingly useful adjunct to the movement to enable women to enjoy the satisfactions of paid work and their family, whether concurrently or consecutively.

Yours faithfully,  
MARY BAKER (President),  
Women in Management,  
64 Marryat Road,  
Wimbledon, SW19,  
October 31.

From Dr L. Phillipson

Sir, Thank you for your judicious comments on "Helping women to work" and I hope that *The Times* has policies to encourage women to seek and hold "top" positions within its own organisation. I would

our research to date has shown no difference.

The supply of nitrogen in organic farming is primarily through the inclusion of N-fixing legumes in the crop rotation, not the application of manure. We have been monitoring nitrate leaching from organic farms over the past six years. Leaching rates are no higher, and often lower, than from conventionally farmed land.

The diversity of organic farming is preferable to the partitioning of intensively managed farmland from the rest of the countryside.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTOPHER STOPES  
(Senior research officer),  
Elm Farm Research Centre,  
Hamstead Marshall,  
Nr Newbury, Berkshire.

sands of hardwood trees" in the Vale of York, has contributed to the lowering of water tables in the area. Afforestation of previously unafforested regions, largely because of attendant increases in - photo-synthetic water-use and the intercepting of rainfall, commonly leads to substantial water-table depression and river-flow reductions.

There is now a wealth of published hydrological evidence, including the results of the Plympton experiment of the Institute of Hydrology, which demonstrates the generality of these effects.

Yours faithfully,  
D. M. LAWLER,  
The University of Birmingham,  
School of Geography,  
Edgbaston, Birmingham B15,  
October 31.

the government did British Rail state that the new high-speed link would be needed in 1998 or 1999.

In any event, I have already made clear that the reference to 2005 was to when capacity will be exhausted. There has not been, contrary to the inference in Mr Hope's article, any decision to defer construction of the high-speed link until that date.

Yours faithfully,

MALCOLM RIFKIND,  
Department of Transport,  
2 Marsham Street, SW1,  
November 1.

From Mr Aubrey Clayphan

Sir, Anyone who has taken the Calais to Paris autoroute recently cannot have failed to see the rapid advance of the new TGV line now only some 50 or so miles from Calais, and this in addition to the vast traffic terminal in an advanced state of construction.

The situation on this side of the Channel is pitiful.  
Yours faithfully,  
AUBREY CLAYPHAN,  
Torridon,  
Leigh, Worchester,  
October 31.

like to see you give more space in your paper to reporting women's events and achievements, particularly in your business and sports sections. I expect that many of us would be happy to forgo in exchange the pseudo-news of fashion reporting and so-called women's interests.

Yours faithfully,  
LAL REL PHILLIPSON,  
Elm Cottage, Madingley,  
Cambridge,  
November 1.

From Mr R. Bayliss

Sir, In the week of Opportunity 2000, the guest list for the prime minister's dinner in honour of the Centre for Policy Studies could be indicative of Whitehall's views on woman's role in society. If so, it suggests that recognition of equality of the sexes may well stretch into the next century.

On your Court page today you published the list. There are six assorted lords, 11 knights of the realm and 35 other male guests. Along with these 52 men we have the names of the three women guests.

In view of the occasion, perhaps this is a policy worthy of further study.

Yours faithfully,  
R. BAYLISS,  
38 Malmes Croft, Leverstock Green,  
Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire,  
November 1.

From Mr C. E. Iliffe

Sir, I must confess to a lapse into sex discrimination. As a chartered engineer I find myself invariably voting for any woman candidate for a place on the council of my professional institution, not because of her qualifications but because I feel that the profession could well benefit from a greater proportion of women engineers.

I was surprised, therefore, to see them omitted from the 30 "women in high places" whom you featured on October 28, even the heading "Industry" confined itself to a finance director.

Yours faithfully,  
C. E. ILIFFE,  
Honey Cottage,  
Woodbury Salterton, Devon,  
October 30.

From Mr Graham Waggett

Sir, Did you notice that not one of the ladies in your list of high-position women is a "wealth" creator - say an engineer in the oil industry? By and large they are all spenders.

Yours faithfully,  
GRAHAM WAGGETT,  
Ridgeway House, Dormansland,  
Lingfield, Surrey,  
October 28.

### 'Heap of the week'

From Mr Esmond Abraham

Sir, Readers of Marcus Binney's article on Hylands, Essex ("Heap of the week", October 26), who wish to know more about the house, may be interested to learn that its architectural history is derived from Pevsner's *Buildings of England* which ascribes the early and mid-19th century remodelings to William Atkinson and J. B. Papworth respectively, and that there is no evidence for these attributions - only stylistic judgment and speculation.

Also, that the restored Regency villa, which he says, "has left the house with a series of large rooms on the ground floor... and a few rather small bedrooms above", is the same in area on each floor as that which belonged to the banker P. C. Labouchere, who happily lived and entertained in it for over 20 years until his death in 1839. And that my restoration scheme was supported by English Heritage, and was not opposed by the Georgian Group and the Victorian Society before receiving listed building consent.

Yours faithfully,  
ESMOND ABRAHAM  
(Chief architect),  
Chelmsford Borough Council,  
Civic Centre, Duke Street,  
Chelmsford, Essex.

### Cashing in fast

From Mr Frank Wilson

Sir, Mr Ryan (letter, October 29) complained about the length of time it takes banks to make transfers between accounts. At TSB, transfers are carried out on the spot. By means of our computer system, money can be moved from Inverness in Perthshire at the touch of a button. There is no reason why banks cannot perform a straightforward cash transfer the same day.

Yours faithfully,  
FRANK WILSON,  
(Marketing manager),  
TSB Bank plc, Cannon House,  
18 The Priors, Queensway,  
Birmingham, West Midlands.

### Bowled over

From Mr L. E. Peterson

Sir, I was driving home from work. It was windy, wet and miserable. The traffic was heavier than usual. Suddenly the sun came out, birds were singing, village church bells were pealing and butterflies flitted among the hedgerows. A voice on the radio had just informed me that ball-by-ball commentary was to continue on the BBC (report, November 2).

Yours faithfully,  
L. E. PETERSON,  
98 Elmcroft Avenue,  
Wansstead, E11,  
November 1.











# Vengeance is a minefield



Justice versus revenge: Gerardo (Bill Paterson) and Paulina (Juliet Stevenson) in *Death and the Maiden*

## THEATRE

### Death and the Maiden

#### Royal Court

LATE one night a lawyer called Gerardo, recently appointed to a commission investigating the atrocities his country endured under dictatorship, brings home the doctor who stopped and helped him when his car had a blow-out. But Roberto the doctor may be a Good Samaritan with a long, black shadow. When Gerardo's wife, Paulina, hears his earnest voice, she convinces herself he was the latter-day Mengele who watched her being tortured 15 years ago. By morning, he is strapped to a chair and on trial, perhaps for his life.

The scene is set for a South American re-run of *Exterminated*, the North American thriller in which a would-be rapist got his comeuppance; and, as it turns out, *Death and the Maiden* has quite as much tension and punch as that battling piece. But the Chilean author, Ariel Dorfman, has a larger, subtler mind than William Mastrosimone. It is the scope and, above all, the purposeful ambiguities of his play that earn it a transfer from the Theatre Upstairs to the Court's main stage.

Never are we altogether sure if Paulina's memories are accurate or if Roberto is the prey of her vindictive imaginings. That is not evasiveness on Dorfman's part. On the contrary, it

lets him do several things at once. He can remind us of the terrible prevalence of torture, win our sympathy for the long-term anguishes of his sufferers, yet make us face something we like to forget: that injustice can beget injustice and victims become as rash and callous as their persecutors. Nor is that all, not by any means.

By forcing a confession out of Roberto, Dorfman offers us a speleological glimpse of the clammy innards of the torturer's mind and yet, by leaving us to wonder whether or not the confession is false, he achieves something still more disturbing. So much of the world's evil is

after all, secretive, unknowable. Perhaps the smiling fellow who invites us solicitously into the surgery, to calm our nerves and heal our wounds, is just a good doctor. But perhaps he has spent another part of his life monitoring the effect of electricity on the genitals. In many countries, awful uncertainties are always there.

More, the play largely consists of a running argument between the claims of distressed justice, grudgingly expressed by Bill Paterson's Gerardo, and those of revenge, unforgottenly embodied by Paulina (Juliet Stevenson). Must we remain vigilant, and conscientiously avoid imitating those

who have wronged us, or may we sometimes let blood speak? With Michael Byrne quivering in his chair, Paterson dogmatically protecting him; and a gun-toting Stevenson swinging from rage to irony to hysteria to sudden tenderness to blistering glee—well, none of these questions are abstract. Lindsay Posner's production is as urgent as today's case-history from Amnesty International.

Jeremy Kingston called this a masterpiece when he reviewed it. That is a word to be handed with care, but I think he was right.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

## DANCE

### Royal Ballet

#### Royal Opera House

ANNOUNCING the end of its temporary closure, the Royal Opera House declared that this week's performances would be as scheduled. But Monday night's audience for the Royal Ballet's postponed first night found that what some would have thought the most interesting item on a mixed bill has quietly disappeared.

James Robbins decided that he was too busy at the Paris Opera to rehearse the revival of his *Abernethy* in a *Fauré*, so two short items replaced it. Maurice Béjart's choreography was its third tiny toe-hold in this company's repertoire in the form of *La Luna*, a solo for Sylvie Guillem to the adagio from Bach's Violin Concerto in E. This seems related to the style he developed, to Valdivia, for a long ballet called *Light*, ten years ago. The

present dance includes slow stretches and yoga contortions, mixed with some fastidious small steps and much sinuous shifting of balance into the most extreme shapes. Guillem has the suppleness, the absolute control and the theatrical flair to present it as a smooth continuum, turning a strange trifle into a polished *parade*—but it is costume jewellery, not a precious stone.

That is true also, I am afraid, of the revival of the duet *Meditation* which Ashton made (to the intermezzo of that name from the opera *Thaïs*) for a charity gala 20 years ago. Nobody could fashion these pretty trifles better than he, and in about five minutes the dance evokes a *Bayadère*-like dream sequence and the mystery of Ashton's own goddess, Anna Pavlova.

This suited its original dancers, Antoinette Sibley and Anthony Dowell, to perfection, and it sits comfortably enough on the successors they have coached, Viviana Durante and Stuart Cassidy, although their interpretation is less devout. A pity

that the company has apparently forgotten the title the choreographer gave the piece, billing it now, misleadingly, as *Thaïs pas de deux*; even more of a shame that the Royal cannot make time to rescue some of its more substantial works from neglect.

Balanchine's *Tchaikovsky pas de deux* was the other unexpected piece, a swift, smooth display of classical bravura which brought our first sight of a new leading man, Zoltan Soyamos, partnering Darcey Bussell. He is tall and strong enough to handle her with ease, and has a robust technique and confident presence likely to bring out the best in her. Back home in Budapest, according to reliable reports, his acting skills are at least as impressive as his display dancing, so we must hope for imaginative casting.

The reception for all three items was warm enough, but less enthusiastic than might have been expected. Partly that might have been because the evening had begun with a spectacular and dispiriting account of *Les*

*Syphylis*, Chopin's music played with rum-tum-tum stolidity; poor lighting with spotlights aimed at a billious green gloom; and dancing that was not half as good as in Birmingham Royal Ballet's new production last week.

But the real trouble was almost certainly bad programming: too many tiny-bitsy little pieces. Even MacMillan's *Winter Dreams*, which ended the bill, suffers from this syndrome. Its individual dances are entertaining and varied but the intended dramatic underflow does not readily become clear except with hindsight. There is excellent dancing from Bussell, Durante and Nicole Tranchesi as the three sisters, neat canons from Dowell, Derek Kenner and Stephen Wickes, and, I feel, Mukhammedov's beautifully inflected performance as the Coloured Soldier. But the ballet does not build up to a total dramatic statement.

JOHN PERCIVAL

## CONCERT

### Allegri Quartet

#### Purcell Room

THE Allegri Quartet are having luck with their Mozart bicentenary project, asking three composers to be "inspired by" the Mozart quartets their pieces were to be heard alongside. Last month they played James MacMillan's clarinet quintet *Tuinahead*, enthusiastically reviewed here by Stephen Pettit. On Monday (with violinist Irina Yudina) it was the turn of John Woolrich's *The Death of King*

*Renard* for string quintet: perhaps not such an ambitious effort, being a quirky trickle of variations over in 12 minutes, but useful evidence that the Woolrich show is on the road. The third piece, in early December, will be by Duncan Druce, who has some experience of working with Mozart, not least in the edition of the Requiem that was heard at the Proms this year.

Woolrich has been in the Mozart reconstruction business too: his gloss on the last act of *Figaro*, a paraphrase made with abandoned fragments and sketches, was the intriguing curtain-raiser to the South Bank's recent Mozart Now festival. Writing for the Allegri, though, he seems to have

interpreted the request to be "inspired by" the C major quartet rather more loosely. His piece is for the same two-violin ensemble, but it is "inspired by" anything, it is by the Norman folk-song that gives it tune and title, and through that (though one wonders which came first) by the related *Ave Maria* stela melody as set by Monteverdi in his Vespers.

There are five variations on the song, one played by each instrument, and all of them a touch fragile and enfeebled, but deftly so, with soft dynamics, broken phrases, skids into extreme registers and feathery brushwork of accompaniment. These are five musicians who only gain strength

when they come together, in the more or less rickety maison passages interlarded with the variations. Then finally the five voices who started the same has another crack at the tune and comes up with the Monteverdi version, sounding a bit like wheezy distant bagpipes. That was a nice, enjoyed and enjoyable performance, and well played. One could even imagine giving the rustic bite of the minuet in Haydn's D minor quartet from Op 76, and the leader Peter Carter's wistful sighs in the finale, then the Sederstrom master had been "inspired by" Woolrich.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

## CONCERT

### LPO/Tennstedt

#### Festival Hall

MAHLER'S Sixth Symphony, originally designated the "Tragic" by the composer, is a titanic struggle with death, a struggle in which the adversary is, if not defeated, at least given a good run for his money. Filled with dark premonitions, the work is generally seen as bleakly pessimistic, even by Mahler's standards.

But Klaus Tennstedt, in his fiercely

uncompromising performance with the London Philharmonic on Monday night, offered a different perspective—one that gained a poignant and unanswerable authority emanating as it did from this particular source. This was a reading whose intensity derived from its complete absence of self-pity, its spirit that of Thomas Mann's allowing death no sovereignty over man's thoughts.

What began as fearless hand-to-hand combat with the Grim Reaper ended with what sounded, in the finale, like a cavalry charge into the abyss. Fate might be undeniable, this tremendous climax seemed to say, but

if one had to go down, one could still live life to the full before doing so.

The Andante Moderato was the only movement in which any calm reflection was allowed, and here Tennstedt unfolded expansive paragraphs with strings, woodwind and brass all dovetailing to perfection: the LPO was on excellent form. His decision to place the Andante third rather than second made the long-awaited tranquillity all the sweeter. By the same token, the heavily inflected rhythms of the Scherzo, hard on the heels of the already vigorous opening movement, offered no let-up for what seemed an eternity.

Tennstedt's ordering has a preferable tonal scheme in its favour, but sacrifices the variety of dynamics and tempo afforded by the more usual sequence. Nevertheless, it can scarcely be denied that the juxtaposition of the Scherzo with the first movement, when both are rendered as intensely as in this performance, can give the work an edge of desperation that releases a powerful and thrilling emotional charge.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Arts features, page 14

## NEW RELEASES

◆ **BLONDE PAST** (15): Kelly Lynch (Nancy) finds salvation in boxing. Crudely developed comedy from director Frank Clark, writer of *Letter to Brezhnev*. (MGM) Tracadero (071-434 0031)

◆ **DEKALOG PARTS 7 AND 8** (PG): Sławomir Polak in the double of an anguished mother and an ethics professor. Inevitably, the Krzysztof Kieslowski's "Ten Commandments" cycle. (Rankin) (071-837 8402)

◆ **RAMBLING ROSE** (15): Inevitable sequel to the 1985 George. Episodic, bawdy, highly entertaining, memorable performances from Laura Dern, Robert Duvall, Director, Martha Coolidge. (Odeon) Haymarket (0426 915333)

◆ **TWENTY-ONE** (15): Life and loves of a cynical modern man. Pacey, lively, neatly encapsulated a London tale, but misleadingly leads the drama. Director, Don Boyd. (Odeon) Haymarket (0426 915333)

## CURRENT

◆ **BOYZ N THE HOOD** (15): Black urban drama from the director John Singleton, played high with realism, rap artist Ice Cube, Cuba Gooding Jr, Laurence Fishburne. (MGM) Tracadero (071-434 0031)

◆ **CITY SICKERS** (12): Over-the-top sentimental comedy, with Billy Crystal and charm seducing a woman, who is a cattle truck. Starring David

## CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol Ⓢ) on release across the country.

Stem, Bruno Kirby, Helen Slater. Director, Ron Underwood. (Rankin) (071-837 8402)

◆ **THE COMMITMENTS** (15): Hard-bitten Dublin youngsters form a soul band. Fresh, funny, and buoyant, a performance by a largely amateur cast. Director, Alan Parker. (Rankin) (071-837 8402)

◆ **EDWARD II** (15): Riveting reworking of Melville's play by Derek Jarman; words and images leap out at the audience. Steven Waddington and Andrew Thomas as star-crossed royal lovers. (West End) (071-439 4903) Gate (071-727 4043)

◆ **FURTING** (12): Steps to maturity at a boarding school. A beautiful film. (Rankin) (071-837 8402)

◆ **THE REVENGE** (15): A tale of a man's quest for revenge. (Rankin) (071-837 8402)

## THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London

◆ **House full, returns only** Ⓢ Some seats available Ⓢ Seats at all prices

◆ **JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOATS**: Jason Donovan sings a golden rule for the night. (Rankin) (071-837 8402)

◆ **THE REVENGE**: A tale of a man's quest for revenge. (Rankin) (071-837 8402)

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## MURRAY PERAHIA

To mark the bicentenary of Mozart's death, Murray Perahia has initiated his own Mozart series "Mozart and Friends". It is a series of three concerts at the South Bank. For the opening concert he is joined by the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields under Kenneth Sarg. The programme comprises Mozart's Piano Concerto, K415, K503 and K452, Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-029 8800), 7.30pm.

◆ **THE ANGELS WITH CLOSED EYES**: The Third Stage Company, popular with young audiences in Japan, makes its debut at a production of the company's first ever West End season, running until Saturday. (Rankin) (071-837 8402)

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## TODAY'S EVENTS

written in a celebratory, an elite group of people is dedicating what the military empty the streets. Dorothy Tutin, Nicola Pignatelli and Barry Foster star in the 40-minute play, preceded by the short *Mountain Language*. (Rankin) (071-837 8402)

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## WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 22

◆ **WHIPPLETREE** (b) The cross-piece of a carriage, presumed to be from *Whip*, but odd: "Two whipple-trees of two feet sixteen inches each, that the horses draw by."

◆ **TARANTAS** (c) A four-wheeled Russian vehicle, on a long flexible wooden chassis, mounted on poles, from the Russian word: "The tarantas resembled a hansom cab without wheels, mounted in a brewer's dray."

◆ **PITHOS** (d) A large, wide-mouthed earthenware jar of spherical form, used for holding wine, oil, or food, from the Greek word: "The pithos occupied by Diogenes was cracked and patched."

◆ **EUPATRID** (c) A member of the aristocracy in ancient Greek states, one of the hereditary aristocracy of Athens, from the Greek *eupatrides* a person with a noble dad: "Cleisthenes abolished the ancient division of tribes, as the most effectual means of reducing the power of the aristocrats."

## WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chief Correspondent

Today's position is from the game Yonadai - Serper. Gausdai 1991. Black to play and win.

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97. ... Nf3

98. ... Nf3

99. ... Nf3

100. ... Nf3

## ENTERTAINMENTS

### ART GALLERIES

SPINK, King St, St James's, SW1. Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 12pm-5pm. (071-235 3030)

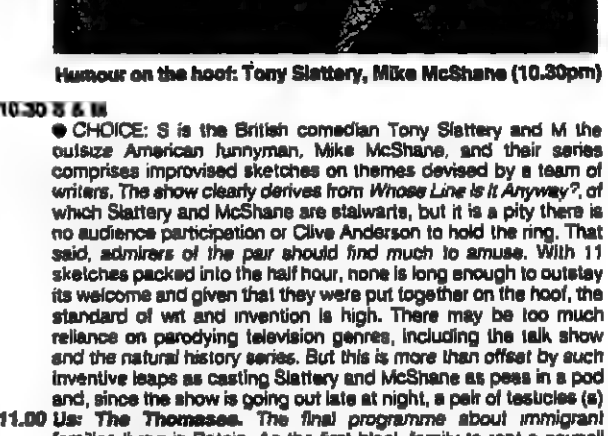
### CINEMAS

◆ **CURZON WEST END**: 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.



**CHANNEL 4**

**6.00** The Channel 4 Daily 9.25 Schools  
**12.00** The Parliament Programme 12.30 Business Daily. City analysis  
Sesame Street. Pre-school learning series  
**2.00** Faith, Hope and Charity. Sh. An exploration of fundamental  
religion and the forces of a ten-part series, Ronald Eyre looks  
at aid and its bearing on human behaviour from both the Buddhist  
and Jewish perspectives (s)  
**-2.30** Film: *Keeper of the Flame* (1942, b/w). Spencer Tracy  
and Katharine Hepburn star opposite each other for the second time  
in this melancholy drama. A journalist (Tracy) investigates the  
biography of a dead politician and beholds his reclusive widow  
(Hepburn). Directed by George Cukor  
**4.30** The Huge Adventures of Trevor & Carl. Surreal cartoon fun  
**4.30** Fifteen-to-one. William G. Stewart hosts the quick-fire quiz (s)  
**5.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show. Oprah talks to doctors with Aids, who  
believe that their condition does not present a health risk to their  
patients. Among those who beg to differ is Kimberly Bergalis, who  
contracted Aids from her dentist  
**5.55** Willo the Wisp. Cartoon with the inhabitants of a ghostly forest (r)  
**6.00** Kate and Allie. Fathers and Sons. American comedy drama  
series about life after divorce, starring Susan Saint James and  
Jane Curtin. Chip tries to hide his bad report card  
**6.30** Tonight with Jonathan Ross, whose guests are the actress and  
comedienne Lily Tomlin and the stand-up comedian Eddie Brill  
**7.00** Channel 4 News with Jon Snow. (Teletext) Weather  
**7.50** Penny Political. Comedienne from a Labour party representative  
**9.00** Brookside. Drama set in a Liverpool council-estate. (Teletext) (s)  
**9.30** Traveller. Robert Elms visits Lisbon, the unspoilt capital of  
Portugal, while Patrick Stoddart takes a short drive from Galais to  
explore the historical sights of Picardy. (Teletext) (e)  
**9.00** Dispatches. This week, the US Senate begins a series of hearings  
into the mounting evidence that American servicemen, missing  
since the Vietnam war, are still being held captive in Indo-China.  
The award-winning current affairs programme examines whether  
these hearings could lead to their belated homecoming  
**9.45** Short and Curious: The New Look. Continuing the series of short  
dramas by new film-makers. In Chris Faller's black comedy, a  
couple's love for each other fades under mounting debt and a  
contrasting taste in decor. (Teletext) (r)  
**10.00** The Golden Girls: *Ebbitide's Revenge*. Bitter-sweet comedy  
with the four Miami matrons. Dorothy (Bea Arthur) attends her  
brother's funeral. (Teletext) (s)



**11.50 Tonight with Jonathan Ross (r) (s)**  
**12.20am Film: Kabbli Dabbie (1976)** *The Hindi Love scene continues with the first showing on network television of another film from the Bombay studios. Faced with parental disapproval, the poet Amrit sacrifices his love for Pooja, who marries another. Starring Amritab Bachchan and Ranehe Guizer. Directed by Yash Chopra. In Hindi and Urdu with English subtitles. Ends at 3.26*

5.50X172 Football Sh  
age 4.00

[illegible]

**1.45 The Seventh Sign**  
**Mystery Starring Debra**

**Do you have enough *real* friends in your wardrobe?**

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# Repossessed houses to go to homeless

By RAY CLANCY

REPOSSESSED houses are to be made available to homeless families under a scheme announced by the government yesterday aimed at reducing the numbers on council waiting lists and restoring confidence in the depressed property market.

The plan, announced by Sir George Young, the housing minister, was immediately condemned by councils as "costly, wasteful and hypocritical". Associations representing local authorities said the government had its priorities wrong and was trying to help lenders when it should be concentrating on preventing people in arrears being thrown out of their homes.

Sir George said the scheme would help mortgage lenders recoup some of the money they lose when trying to sell empty repossessed homes at a time when their number has reached record levels. Building societies have been unable to sell empty properties at market prices. Town and Country building society is negotiating a rescue package after losing millions of pounds in mortgage arrears and repossessions.

The scheme allows lenders to make empty properties available to housing associations who will act as agents and let them to homeless families nominated by local authorities. Rental periods ranging from one to three years are envisaged.

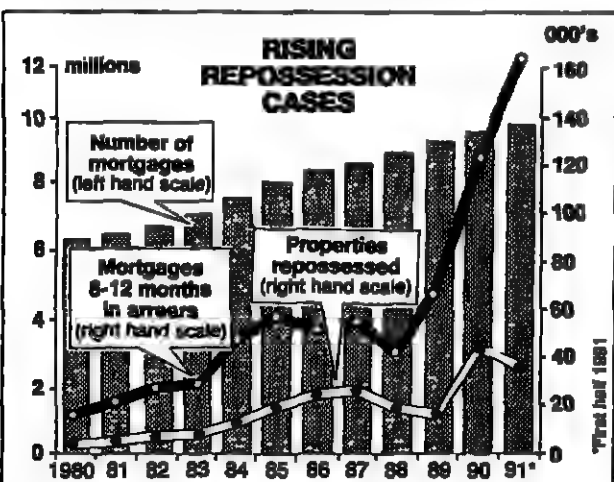
Geoff Matthews, principle policy officer responsible for housing, for the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said the plan was a waste of resources. "It will cause unnecessary suffering and is a poor substitution for a mortgage rescue scheme. It recognises that mortgage lenders are losing money on empty

properties and gives them a way of bringing in some income. But the priorities of the government are all wrong. It appears the government wants to help mortgage lenders at the expense of mortgagees who should be offered more help."

Pete Challis, chairman of the Association of London Authorities housing committee, said: "This scheme will not help people stay in their own homes. They will be made homeless and the local authority will have to pay to put them in temporary accommodation. The council will then have to pay to lease repossessed property. This is an unnecessary and costly exercise when much expense and heartache could have been avoided by helping the original family stay in their own home."

Theoretically a family whose home is repossessed could end up renting their old home, but the environment department and the Council of Mortgage Lenders said such a scenario was unlikely. An estimated 12 per cent of households declared homeless by councils are due to repossessions. In London 60,000 people are more than three months in arrears, according to an ALA survey.

Mark Bolcat, CML's director general, said, however, that the scheme would work to a positive way for everyone concerned. "The number of properties being taken into possession is depressing the market, which in turn is retarding a recovery. If properties can be taken off the market, this will both speed up the recovery in the immediate future and reduce any overheating subsequently by the properties being fed back into the market."



Deep in thought: a visitor peers into a sculpture by Anish Kapoor, the artist's contribution to an exhibition by Turner Prize finalists which opens today at the Tate Gallery in London. The winner will be named on November 26.

## Oxford dons clam up to scupper compilers of Norrington table

By JOHN O'LEARY  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD dons voted yesterday against compiling a sophisticated comparison of college examination results to challenge the Norrington table, opting instead for a blunt instrument to dispose of the much-criticised league.

Congregation, the university parliament, voted 69-26

to remove college affiliations from all pass lists to prevent newspapers from compiling the table. The issue will go to a postal ballot of Oxford's 2,500 academic staff.

First suggested by Sir Arthur Norrington, a former president of Trinity College in a letter to *The Times* in 1963, the table has been accused of damaging colleges on the strength of minor variations

in degree results. Sir Arthur is said by his widow to have thought up the idea of ranking colleges according to the degree classifications of their students in his bath.

The table, compiled without the university's blessing since 1964, has become increasingly unpopular as rivalry between the colleges has acquired financial, as well as academic, significance. There were plans

to remove college names from this year's pass lists until it was found that the university's statutes did not allow it.

Anxious not to be seen suppressing information where the government is pressing for greater openness over educational standards, Oxford's council, the university's executive body, recommended a different course. A review would find ways of compiling

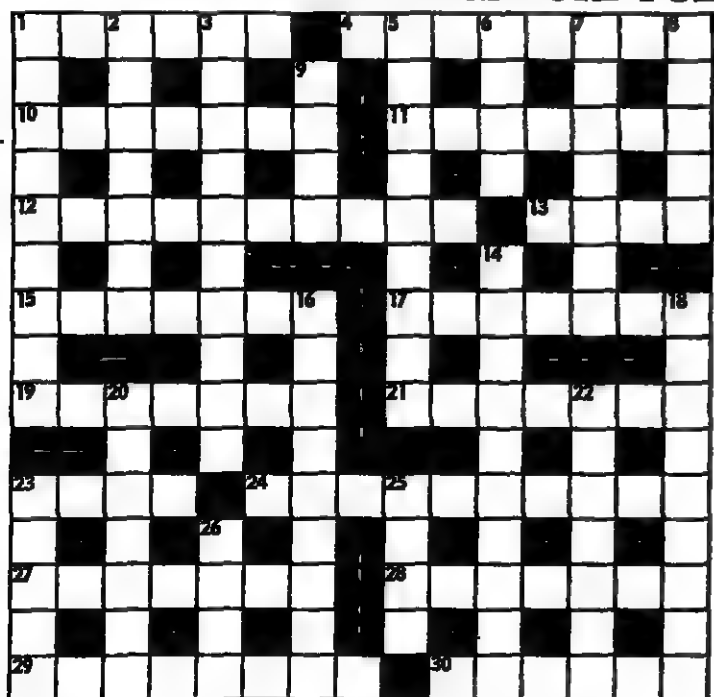
a more sophisticated, official series of tables comparing colleges' performance.

Before yesterday's meeting, however, 72 dons circulated a flysheet arguing for a five-year suspension of the publication of college names with degree class lists. "It is difficult to see how a 'fairer' table, which incorporates all known variables, would be other than a bureaucratic nightmare or so

bristling with unforeseen circumstances as to be almost useless," their statement said.

The opponents of an official table argued that such a development would imply university approval for competition between the colleges when effective teaching depended on co-operation. The university said that nobody had spoken in support of the Norrington table at the meeting.

### THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,756



- ACROSS**
- One consumed by rage is showing spirit (6).
  - Little notice may be taken when account is rendered by workman (8).
  - Glasgow rumoured to provide the perfect remedy (7).
  - Army unit ordered to seize intelligence (4).
  - Bridge players peer at honour (7).
  - Pain relief for anyone in smash and about dead (7).
  - Artistic medium in a tantrum at first (7).
  - Old England when first occupied (7).
  - Run to help Sally (4).
  - Inferior means of scoring for the supporter? (10).
- DOWN**
- Turn on second, grieved at having suffered blows (9).
  - An orchestra conducted by a failure? (4-3).
  - Revolvers to upset the balance of power (10).
  - Waiting to catch morning transport about due at the outskirts (9).
  - Intermittent flow from many a tear (4).
  - Descriptive language of publication that's about the track (7).
  - Wind-blown soil deprivation gripping East (5).
  - Sticks up for the self-satisfied (4).
  - In turmoil restoring W Berlin perhaps (10).
  - Discharged, having deserted (9).
  - Ability to put up with quarters provided on imprisonment (9).
  - Swirling mist - one from which to get wet (7).
  - Set fags are produced for this conversational gathering in America (7).
  - Take a spin, parking in the centre, and drive back (3).
  - Puts out paws for drinks (4).
  - A British island k about about (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,755

RUBSET ACCOLADE  
TUNCOUITY  
COUNTDOWN TITHE  
KINRMSTRAL  
SUNBEAM TITRACLE  
WELLS  
AUDIO SQUATTER  
WELLS  
NOVELIST LUPIN  
UPORI  
POPCORN VAPOURS  
RHUATVDE  
OVERT INSURGENT  
AUERMENT  
RESERVED SETTLE

### WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

- WHIPPLETREE**
- The gullies.
  - Cross-piece of a carriage.
  - The walnut tree.
- TARANTAS**
- A lascivious dance.
  - A trading vessel from Tarantum.
  - A four-wheeled vehicle.
- PTIHOOS**
- A large storage jar.
  - Overdone patches.
  - A pit pony.
- EUPATRID**
- A rich orphan.
  - Daughters of the Irish.
  - A Greek artist.

Answers on page 20

### AA ROADWATCH

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M-ways/roads M2-M4 735

M25 London Orbital only 736

National

National motorways 737

West Country 738

Wales 739

Midlands 740

East Anglia 741

North-west England 742

North-east England 743

Scotland 744

North Ireland 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 46p per minute at all other times.

### WEATHER

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| Swansea       | 10   | 10   | 10    | 10   |
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| Wolverhampton | 10   | 10   | 10    | 10   |
| Wrexham       | 10   | 10   | 10    | 10   |

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### THE LAST WORD IN CIGARS

CHAMBORD

COMPLIMENTS OF HENRI WINTERHARDT

GLASGOW

Weather: Temp max 6 am to 6 pm, 00C (40F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 00C (32F). Wind 24 hr, 24 hr to 6 pm, 24 hr.

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## Dowding lifts bid for Torday to £18.8m

Dowding & Mills, the mechanical repairs company, has increased its offer for Torday & Carlisle, the engineering and signs group, and has offered a partial cash alternative. This final paper offer, of nine new Dowding shares for every five Torday shares, values each Torday share at 117p and the company at £18.8 million.

The previous offer was seven for five and was worth £13.6 million. The partial cash alternative is available for up to 40 per cent of the new Dowding shares and is worth 108p a share.

Torday, rejected the increased offer, claiming that "it still grossly undervalues the market leadership positions and strong growth potential" of its businesses. Jim Cole, the chief executive of Dowding, said that the increased offer represented a 91.8 per cent premium to the 61p market price at which it acquired its original 6 per cent stake in Dowding. The offer closes on November 22.

## Aitken rises

Aitken Hume International, the financial services group, reports a 37 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £2.06 million, before exceptional items, for the six months to end-September. If a £510,000 exceptional pension fund credit is taken into account, the increase in pre-tax profits is 71 per cent. Earnings per share were 3.25p (1.66p) and the interim dividend is maintained at 0.5p.

## Bridport ahead

Bridport-Gundry reports a pre-tax profit of £818,000 (£578,000) for the year to end-July on a turnover of £32.3 million (£31.5 million). The final dividend of 2.6p (1.9p) makes 4.11 (3.8p).

## Savola success

The Savola Company of Saudi Arabia, the main supplier of cooking oil in the country, said a public issue of shares to raise 360 million riyals (£54 million) had been heavily oversubscribed.

# Aerospace chiefs call for more access to government

By COLIN CAMPBELL

LEADING executives in the aerospace industry yesterday called for improved communication with the government to prevent the industry walking up a blind alley.

Dick Evans, chief executive of British Aerospace, said a more open channel of communication with more senior officials about government plans would lead to improved budgeting within the industry, "more investments in the right direction, and eventually to higher exports."

"The aerospace industrial sector faces a turbulent passage through quite unprecedented degrees of change," he said. BAe still "had every reason to look forward with optimism, however."

Addressing County NatWest's one-day aerospace conference, Roger Hurn, chairman of Smiths Industries, said the current shakeout in the industry would leave strong companies better placed.

"A commitment to research and development will ensure a good payback in the longer term," he said, adding that the trend will be towards increasing electronic content.

The conference was told that the world market for commercial aircraft of all sizes would be more than 13,500 aircraft in the next 20 years. The Airbus consortium forecasts the compound average growth in air travel will exceed 5 per cent per annum through to 2010. Mr Evans said there

are no free A320 delivery slots until 1994, and no A330/340 delivery slots free until 1995.

Pete Deighton, director and analyst of County NatWest's engineering sector, said the problems of the industry were reflected in the sector's share price performance: a one year underperformance of 30 per cent, a three months underperformance of 15 per cent, and a one month's underperformance of 3 per cent.

Gordon Page, outlining the technology of the FR Group, where he is chief executive, said passengers on Cathay Pacific's B747 aircraft will shortly be able to receive BBC World Service and Voice of America live.

Slingsby Aviation, a subsidiary of ML Holdings, and Northrop World Aircraft Services of America yesterday signed a teaming agreement to bid for the US Air Force enhanced flight screener programme, which calls for 125 aircraft plus full contractor logistic support.

Saudi Arabia, which intends to spend \$10 billion on defence equipment with British manufacturers over the next five years, wants to buy \$4 billion worth of American F-15 jet fighters from McDonnell Douglas (Philip Robinson writes).

Saudi Arabia has confirmed it will buy at least 48 Tornados and 60 Hawks under a contract being worked out with the British government.



Communication: Dick Evans of British Aerospace

## Wellcome in talks on disposals

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

WELLCOME, the pharmaceuticals group that makes Zovirax and Retrovir, is negotiating to sell two more of its smaller businesses so it can concentrate on its fast-growing international drugs division.

Talks are being held with Roussel-Uclaf, the French drugs subsidiary of the Hoechst pharmaceutical group of

Germany, for the sale of Wellcome's environmental health division, which supplies insecticides for household use and for public health and timber treatment. The sale is expected to be settled by the end of the year.

Wellcome said its business and the Roussel-Uclaf environmental health operations would have a turnover of

about £150 million. The French company said the purchase would give it an important position in the world market for environmental health insecticides.

Wellcome also announced that it was having talks with Murex Technologies of Canada, which wants to buy its diagnostics division, which develops and makes kits for

the detection and diagnosis of disease and organisms that cause disease.

The two putative deals are the latest in a series of small disposals of traditional Wellcome businesses that have become peripheral due to the rapid growth of its main pharmaceutical operations.

Wellcome's shares rose 19p to 757p.

## Brent Walker claims waived

By MATTHEW BOND

BRENT Walker, the leisure group, yesterday confirmed that bondholders speaking for 90.1 per cent of the company's convertible bond issue have agreed that they will not pursue any legal claim against the company.

The waiver by more than 90 per cent of bondholders leaves the way clear for Brent Walker's banks finally to approve the restructuring package offered to, and now accepted by, bondholders.

Without the waiver, Brent Walker would have been vulnerable to claims from bondholders, who subscribed for bonds largely on the back of the company's 1990 interim results. Brent Walker has since conceded that these results were materially over-stated.

Despite the progress, several further obstacles need to be overcome before Brent Walker and its banks finally sign off the long-awaited £1.3 billion refinancing of the company's debts.

These include the unwinding of Walker Power, the joint venture company that owns the Trocadero centre in London, and the settling of Brent Walker's legal disagreement with Grand Metropolitan over the price paid for William Hill, the bookmaker sold by Grand Met in 1989.

Brent Walker also needs to secure the agreement of its ordinary shareholders, some of whom are still believed to oppose the terms of the refinancing.

## Baring lines up US deal

BARING Brothers, the UK investment bank, has stepped closer to Wall Street. The management of Dillon Read, the American stockbroker in which Baring wants a 40 per cent stake, disclosed that it could raise the money to buy the balance.

In what is expected to be an \$80 million deal, the 161-year-old Wall Street firm will buy itself out of Travelers Corp, the troubled Connecticut insurer that bought Dillon Read in 1986.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### Ulster TV confident despite fall in profits

ULSTER Television, the Northern Irish television group which retained its licence despite two rival bids, saw pre-tax profits fall from £1.32 million to £134,000 in the six months to end-June. The dividend has been increased from 3p to 3.25p.

Turnover fell from £12.3 million to £11.4 million, largely as the result of a 7 per cent drop in advertising revenue, while costs rose slightly to £11.4 million. After the exchequer levy of £299,000, the group made an operating loss of £248,000, but investment income of £382,000, down from £544,000, returned the business to profit. Earnings per share fell from 7.65p to 0.76p.

John McGuckian, the group's chairman, said: "There are now some encouraging signs of a turnaround in our revenue prospects with modest increases in both September and October. There is increasing confidence that the recession has bottomed out and that there will be some economic growth next year. Should this come about it is likely to be reflected positively in the budgets which advertisers allocate to the promotion of their products. Despite the trading difficulties this year, the company remains in good financial shape with no borrowings." The shares rose 2p to 148p.

### Late payers 'growing'

LATE payers may have to be forced by law to settle debts to small businesses promptly, Lord Alexander, the chairman of National Westminster Bank, said. The recession was the main reason for increased delays in payment, he said. The problem was "making life even more difficult for those seeking to weather the already troubled economic conditions".

Half of all small businesses were not paid on time, according to a NatWest survey. The Department of Employment offers advice to small businesses on how to avoid late payment problems. Lord Alexander said: "But this may need reinforcement, either through a widely accepted code of practice which is effective in securing payment or, in the last resort, through legislation."

### Kuwait potential

BIG orders remain to be won in Kuwait by British companies despite their success already in winning contracts there, Timothy Sainsbury, the trade minister, said after a three-day visit to the Gulf. British companies had already scored successes, winning work worth at least £480 million since Kuwait's liberation.

But Mr Sainsbury went on: "There's a lot of business to be won. The Kuwaiti purchasing power when they are back to producing 1.5 million barrels of oil per day will clearly be very extensive." British firms had won about 20 per cent of the contracts on offer, taking second place behind America and beating Japan and Germany.

### Gatt meeting called

ARTHUR Dunkel, director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt), has called a meeting of the Uruguay round steering group, the trade negotiations committee, for tomorrow. Announcing the move yesterday, a spokesman said Mr Dunkel will give a news conference after the meeting.

The spokesman said the meeting had been called to assess the situation after five years of negotiations in the Uruguay round of Gatt and to discuss possible scenarios for completing the round and sealing a new global trade accord.

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## The CBI conference: business debates merits of a more environmentally friendly approach

## Delegates welcome Eurotunnel chief's tax on pollution

By ROSS TIEMAN  
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

SIR Alastair Morton's campaign for a £5 billion-a-year special tax to fund transport improvements gathered momentum yesterday when the CBI gave him a high-profile platform to spell out his ideas before Britain's business leaders in Bournemouth.

The Eurotunnel chief executive was awarded the prime slot in CBI's conference debate on transport and the environment. His plan, for a tax on transport based on its environmental impact, was warmly received.

Time and again, delegates made plain their fears that despite planned increases, government spending on infrastructure was too little, too late.

The accelerating expansion of the European economic region threatened to leave Britain further than ever from the centre of economic gravity, Sir Alastair said.

Italy, France, and Belgium, countries far less geographically disadvantaged, were making much greater efforts to improve their transport infrastructure, he said.

"Our peripheral location demands heavy investment by us now, to make up for the lost 1980s, the decade of infrastructure deficit," he said. "Transportation is essential to our economic survival."

Sir Alastair's scheme involves the introduction of a pollution levy, partly in place of existing taxes, on all forms of transport. The levy, to run for five years, would raise £4 billion a year, sufficient, with interest accrued, to set up a fund of £25 billion within five years.

The levy would be raised by taxing transport according to its environmental impact. Emissions, noise, casualties and land-take would be the key components of an index system which would favour modes of transport that caused least harm to non-users.

"Transportation pollution,

## TRANSPORT

in all forms, ought to be reduced wherever possible, and ought to contribute to finding the solution," he said. "A tax, or a levy, is the logical response to reduce the problem, pollution, while paying for the underlying need, transportation."

The proceeds of the levy would be paid into a transport investment fund, directed by a board independent of the Treasury, but drawn from both public and private sectors.

The board would invest the fund, in partnership with international capital markets and private industry, in projects designed to "eliminate as many as possible of the obstacles and costs to Britain of its peripheral location in Europe."

The development of a dedicated fund would overcome the constraint imposed by the Treasury efforts to improve Britain's transport system, he said.

Sir Alastair launched a vigorous attack on the Treasury, for failing to account properly for the benefits to the economy of transport investment.

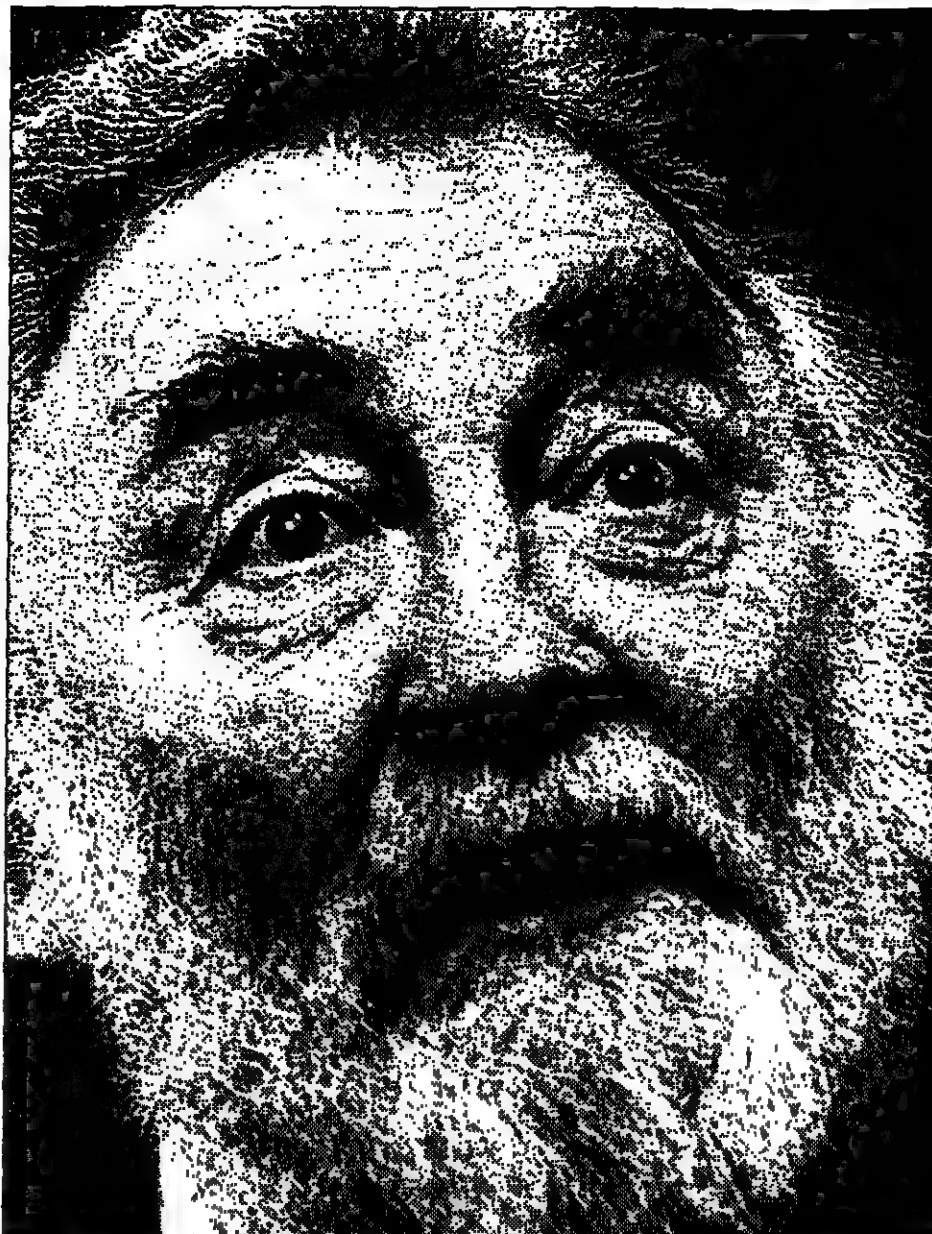
"I have stipulated an independent board, under private sector leadership, because the Treasury has no concept of investment," he said. "It pools it with expenditure."

Yet the fund envisaged by Sir Alastair would not be a drain on the public purse because it would accrue substantial returns for the taxpayer as well as benefiting transport users and those affected by transport pollution.

Sir Alastair's experience at Eurotunnel has convinced him that private sector infrastructure projects would be more economic, and more easily funded, if they were underpinned by money borrowed at low interest rates from the taxpayer.

The transport fund, he said, should make investments in projects on a long-term basis, perhaps in the form of a 50-year subordinated loan. Interest payments would initially be held down, but could rise once the transport system operating. But the fund could be compensated for the low initial repayments by taking a share of the profits.

John Banham, the CBI director general, welcomed Sir Alastair's scheme as a "very serious proposal".



Tough line: the professor said water intakes should be downstream of outfalls

## Bellamy calls for adoption of ten-point plan to cut contamination

By DEREK HARRIS

## STRATEGY

AN impassioned plea for more to be done to rescue the environment from waste, neglect and contamination was delivered by Professor David Bellamy, who opened the debate on the subject. Professor Bellamy said progress was being made by a growing number of industrial companies, but he urged action even in matters of clothing.

Thermal rating for adventure sports clothing was commonplace, he pointed out. Marketed for home use, it would lead to a sharp reduction in heating costs and in deaths due to hypothermia.

There had to be standards for thermal efficiency in the workplace, in transport and in the home, he said.

The professor pinpointed not only energy but also water, habitat and atmosphere as needing action to safeguard them. Throw in L for Life, he said, and there was a good acronym. Whale, for auditing new, healthy standards for life.

A Whale-friendly world was beginning to emerge, he suggested. Conoco, the oil company, had introduced safety standards from drilling rigs to petrol station forecourts; and 3M (UK) had played a leading role in voluntary environmental protection. The Co-op audited all its goods for "environmental friendliness".

Professor Bellamy added a warning that some business Luddites were declaring that caring for the environmental cost money and would eat into profit margins.

Industry was again and again proving that to be untrue as new technologies made re-cycling and re-use of waste streams profitable.

He added: "The challenge before industry, from shop floor to boardroom, is to speed the process on its way before legislation of a more negative kind sends many businesses to the wall of bankruptcy."

He proposed ten "Bellamy guidelines" for the greening of business:

1. Carry out cradle-to-grave,

independent environmental audits of all company activities.

2. Develop comprehensive environmental policies based on the audits.

3. Produce action plans with specific environmental targets.

4. Integrate the action plans into strategic business planning.

5. Ensure action and control by setting up environmental management systems, with environmental affairs managers in charge.

6. Ensure that staff know about the policies and be organised to meet its challenges; training might be needed.

7. Ensure that top management are committed to the green initiative.

8. Link the environmental plans with quality programmes.

9. Seek to enforce the new British Standard on the environment, once it was implemented.

10. Adopt an environmentally sensitive approach to development of new products and processes.

Professor Bellamy suggested some broad-brush criteria for success, such as "fishability" and "swimmability" of rivers, lakes and inshore waters. He said industrial water users should be willing to put their water intake points downstream of their own outfalls.

He added the observation that, working on the principle of maximum profitability, raw materials should be wasted. Since these were paid for, including the costs of their transport to the factory, companies were foolish to face the costs of dumping anything with downstream consequences.

"Anything that entered a production system for any purpose should end as part of a saleable product, or as a saleable or re-usable by-product."

## Industry launches green campaign

By DEREK HARRIS

THE CBI is launching an initiative to encourage firms to pursue environmental excellence through closer collaboration among companies. A particular aim is to bring in smaller organisations through the supply chain.

The Environment Business Forum, which will produce an agenda for action on the environment, was announced by Tony Cleaver, chairman and chief executive of IBM (UK), as he opened a session devoted to the pursuit of environmental excellence.

Companies lined up to tell how their environmental

schemes had succeeded, often with quick financial returns. Mr Cleaver said this demonstrated the clear benefits to businesses of good environmental performance.

He said the forum would provide a focal point for business-led voluntary actions and would be organised through the CBI's regional structure. It would give up-to-date information on environmental issues and could influence eventual UK and EC environmental policy.

The forum might be all that was needed to stimulate many companies, Mr Cleaver said. "It may prepare them for the

## COLLABORATION

new BSI Standard and later the emerging eco-audit scheme in Europe." He added: "It is one important way of ensuring that business sets the agenda for actions, which it alone can take, to protect and enhance the environment in which we all live and work."

Mr Cleaver tackled the reaction that some might think firms would have about tackling environmental issues. "In these difficult times are there really any reasons why we should do anything about it? When our main concern is

keeping out of the red, do you really expect us to be green?" Industry seemed to be giving the answer, he said. The BSI's draft standard for an environmental management system produced requests for more than 1,000 copies, far more than any previous BSI draft standard.

He said caring for the environment was not an issue of size, nor a question of the current economic climate because, good environment practice was also good business practice. Good environmental policies could save businesses money.

A Dutch study of the cost

benefits of clean technology looked mostly at small-to-medium sized companies plus two public transport operators. Of the first 45 pollution-prevention projects, 22 offered direct money savings. Most of the rest were cost-neutral, giving environmental improvement without a significant price tag.

□ The CBI is to set up a taskforce to examine ways in which business can become more involved in land use planning decisions. The taskforce will look at ways in which the process of seeking planning consent could be simplified and speeded up.

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## Bad timing at Hawker

Timing is everything they say and the simple fact of takeover life is that BTR has got its bid timing brilliantly wrong. Yesterday's defence document from the beleaguered and accident prone Hawker was long on presentation and promise but conspicuously short of hard fact. Having admitted a month or so ago that neither the British nor the American markets showed any signs of recovery, Hawker has now made just such a recovery a key element of its corporate strategy for 1992, including its new-found generosity to shareholders.

Alan Watkins, Hawker's chief executive, has tried hard to persuade shareholders that the drastic restructuring of their company was actually embarked on a year ago rather than the day after BTR unveiled its £1.5 billion offer. To some extent, he is probably right. But if it was, why were not more people, and shareholders in particular, made more aware of what was planned. For it stretches shareholder loyalty to its limits when management's response to a hostile bid is a bald statement that it planned to sell 55 per cent of the business anyway. If quite so much is wrong, why stop at 55 per cent — 100 per cent is a much nearer number.

Again, if these disposals had been planned for so long, it is extremely unfortunate that Hawker has not yet been able to complete any yet. Hawker may have received the permission of Siemens and Emerson Electric to use their names but how much more convincing it would have been if prices and completion dates had also been included in the document. In particular, for a document that makes much of the 16.9 exit multiple that BTR's bid offers Hawker shareholders, it would be more than interesting to see the exit multiples Hawker hopes to achieve for its surplus businesses.

Whatever Dr Watkins might protest about increased buyer awareness, it is difficult to counter the suggestion that BTR's unwelcome intervention reduces Hawker Siddeley to the position of forced seller and, in turn, forced buyer. While BTR's corporate strategy is far from beyond reproach, Hawker shareholders do have the certainty of the 700p cash alternative. It must be tempting for Sir Owen Green and Alan Jackson to tough it out by making the current bid final, but a modest increase in the terms would end any doubts.

## Law and disorder

John Redwood, minister for corporate affairs, takes issue with those who question his decision to change the present arrangements for disclosure of company news to investors. The minister has decided in the interests of promoting a free market that companies may give their price-sensitive information to commercial news organisations at the same time as it goes to the Stock Exchange. Mr Redwood disputes the point made in these columns that under the newly proposed arrangements there will be no central release point for price-sensitive information. Mr Redwood says that companies will still be required to give announcements to the Stock Exchange.

True, but under the new arrangements it will be impossible to say where a news announcement will appear first. Whichever of the competing agencies wants to be first with the news will certainly release it via a wire or screen in a heavily condensed form. That opens the possibility that some investors will receive the news before others, some in full, some in brief and some in headlines only. All this is hardly conducive to orderly markets. The neat arrangement where everyone knows that the exchange is the central release point and that everyone will receive a full text of the official company statement at the same time will be ended under the Redwood amendments.

## Government ministers take centre stage on environmental issues

# Industry urged to clean up its act or miss green market

'Where there is no muck, there can still be brass' is the message to British firms in the Nineties. Philip Bassett reports

Green business came of age yesterday. As Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, was at the Confederation of British Industry's conference in Bournemouth, warning British business not to miss the green market, John Wakeham, the energy secretary, was in London, going further than he has before on energy efficiency.

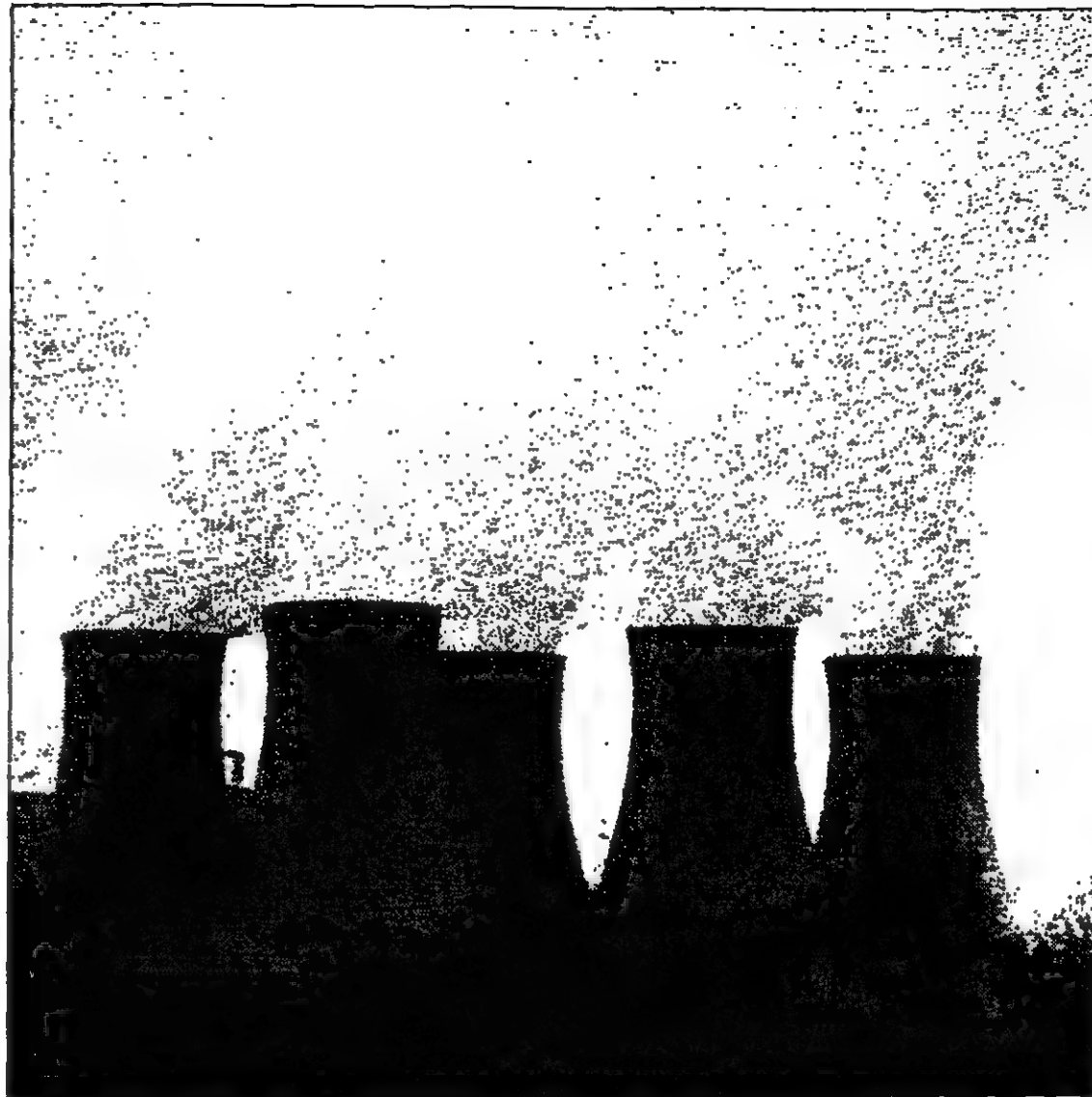
As Tony Cleaver, IBM UK's chairman and chief executive, announced the CBI's latest green initiative of an environment business forum, to be launched next month, David Bellamy, the environmentalist, was showing how green pressures on business are set to increase.

Chris Hampson, an ICI director with environmental responsibility, said: "This is now a major issue for the whole business community. Environmental issues are a fact of business life." John Speirs, of Norsk Hydro, the chemical company, added: "It's been a tough year economically, but it's quite clear that for business, the environment is a recession-proof issue."

Environmentalism in business may have seemed like a sad when companies first became concerned about it, but the breadth of its impact, and its increasing impact in the future, was underlined by the CBI devoting all of the second of its two-day conference to green business yesterday, and to Mr Heseltine's guidance on the consequences of businesses not cleaning up their environmental act. He told the CBI: "The price of failing to meet the environmental challenge will be that bankers will not lend, insurers will not insure, institutions will not invest, public authorities will not license, politicians will not support, customers will not purchase, and staff will not stay."

David Smith, of PA management consultants, said, however: "The consistent undertone from companies is that the environment is a burden on executives." Figures released yesterday by PA, in association with Mr Bellamy's environmental consultancy company, suggested that, so far at least, many companies have yet to take full account of Mr Heseltine's warning.

The survey of 176 businesses showed that many companies have no environmental management system. Fewer than one in four communicate their green policies to customers. Only 20 per cent have carried out staff training on green



Where there's smoke: pollution comes under fire as industry is advised to adopt a greener attitude

issues. As few as 22 per cent have conducted an environmental audit within their companies. Green purchase choices, such as recycled paper and low-energy light bulbs, are made by only 28 per cent, and none of the companies looked at specifically buying environmentally friendly raw materials for their production processes.

However, as many as 57 per cent of the companies have taken action to reduce waste, and 51 per cent have taken action to reduce emissions. Nearly three quarters say they are complying with environmental legislation. Ninety-four per cent believe environmental pressures on their businesses will increase. As a result, many have taken steps to address environmental problems.

Kit Sadgrove, from David Bellamy Associates' environmental auditing unit, said: "Many companies appear to be taking a responsible attitude to the environment, although they still have a long way to go before they are truly environmentally friendly."

Cost is at the heart of companies' thinking on environmental issues. According to Mr Cleaver, companies hit hard by the recession are

saying: "When our main concern is keeping out of the red, do you really expect us to be green?"

Much of the CBI's environmental work, and the main thrust of Mr Heseltine's speech, is about showing companies that while good environmental practice may be costly, bad environmental practice may be costlier still.

As an example, the Building Employers' Confederation says that just under half the energy used in Britain is taken up in buildings. Ten per cent of new building materials — about 24 million tonnes — are wasted every year, at a cost of about £2 billion.

Mr Heseltine's and trade secretary Peter Lilley's advisory committee on business and the environment, headed by John Collins, of Shell, this week produced its first report. Sharp increases in petrol prices are suggested for environmental reasons. Some other oil companies disagree with the method the committee has chosen, but they do not doubt the need to take action.

Green economists estimate that

the total market for environmental improvement technology and equipment in Britain will be £30 billion a year by 1995. The real worry for many companies in Britain is that industry is already falling behind in supplying this market, and that many of the environmentally friendly products and processes British companies want to introduce are supplied by overseas manufacturers.

When business first started to deal with environmentalism, as recently as a few years ago, it looked as though it might be only dabbling, a passing fad, a fashion. Mr Cleaver said: "There were many industrialists who believed just that, but how wrong they were."

Green consumerism, whether by shoppers or companies buying industry's products, is an established feature of the economy, with a real bottom-line impact. For profit-hungry businesses, that is now enough to make them take environmental issues seriously, or at least, much more seriously than they did. Where there's muck, there's always been brass; industry is getting the message that where there isn't muck, there may well be brass too.

## Wakeham warms to a global challenge

JOHN Wakeham, the energy secretary, yesterday crossed the environmental rubicon. He declared energy efficiency the "quickest, most cost-effective, and therefore the most painless way" of meeting Britain's commitment to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide, the gas most responsible for global warming.

Previously, energy efficiency in Britain has been promoted primarily in response to fuel price rises, with the environment a secondary consideration.

In an address to the Environment Strategy Europe conference in London, however, Mr Wakeham went further than ever to establish a sea-change in government policy. Britain, he said, could save up to a fifth of current energy consumption using existing technologies. "That translates into a staggering £10 billion a year," he said. "To put it into perspective, that is about the same as the wealth created by the North Sea oil and gas industry."

Mr Wakeham said the world's reliance on burning fossil fuels for 80 per cent of its energy needs was "the most fundamental problem facing civilisation."

Global energy consumption could rise 50 to 75 per cent over the next 30 years, he said. The costs of constraining demand would be enormous. He added, however, that that was no argument for fatalism.

Persuading 160 countries attending next June's "earth summit" in Brazil to agree a strategy to cut carbon dioxide emissions, let alone implement energy saving measures, will be a tough fight. The government's view, outlined by Mr Wakeham, is that the market mechanism must be central. Although the government does not oppose the principle of energy taxes, it believes unilateral action could prove counterproductive.

Mr Wakeham said: "We either need to make substantial improve-



Wakeham: policy change

ments in energy efficiency, or develop alternative energy sources." The government is taking action on both fronts, but many would argue that its response, particularly with regard to domestic energy consumption, remains pitifully underfunded.

ROSS TIEMAN

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Blondes prefer gentlemen

GENTLEMEN are said to prefer blondes, and blondes, it seems, prefer gentlemen. Ivana Trump, wealthy ex-wife of Donald Trump, was clearly unimpressed when Richard Branson, the Virgin Atlantic boss, in high-spirited mood, turned her upside down — literally — at an airline awards luncheon. Having regained her composure, she returned to her seat, beside Branson's arch-rival, Lord King, British Airways' chairman. Clearly appreciative of his more conversational approach, Ivana expressed her gratitude by inviting Lord King to visit her the next time he was in New York. Not one to shy from such an attractive opportunity, less than a week later, Lord King managed to reroute his return journey from Venezuela to take in the Big Apple and took Ivana at her word. Once inside her Trump Tower penthouse suite, they shared a glass or two of champagne. "King definitely got the girl," says one amused insider, indicating that the rivalry between King and Branson extends to more than mere airlines.

### Ear-ly bird

USA Today, the American national newspaper, invited its readers to write in about the perils of business travel. One of the 300 or so replies came from Chris Wolfe, an auditor from Connecticut, who was attacked by a parrot in a hotel lobby in Indianapolis while making a telephone call. Wolfe had the phone pressed against one ear when



the bird, one of several resident in the lobby, latched on to his other ear and refused to let go. "I finally managed to bat it to the ground where one of the hotel's maintenance workers picked it up saying: 'Oh yeah, we have problems with this one all the time'," Wolfe wrote.

### Smith's ad-age

WH SMITH, which has just severed its 23-year connection with DMB & B, the advertising agency, awarding its £10 million account to Bartle Bogle Hegarty — selected from a short list of four, including DMB & B — is, it seems, still sentimental about some things. Preparing for its bicentenary celebrations, which begin next year, WH Smith has unearthed an advertisement placed in *The Times* in 1872, offering for sale "An old-established news walk to be disposed of that brings in £1.12s per week clear profit; situated in the best part of London, and capable, with care and assiduity, of great improvement; such an opportunity seldom offers for an industrious person."

Thirty-two shillings was then the average weekly wage of a skilled workman, but the business, the fledgling WH Smith, which sold the eight regular morning dailies then on sale in London, failed — fortunately — to attract any buyers.

### Sweet tooth

AS MERCHANT banks go, J Henry Schroder Wagg has, it seems, a sweeter tooth than most. The bank has just emerged as the biggest corporate buyer of chocolates at the Benidix shop in the Royal Exchange. Schroder Wagg's staff are happy to pay up to £31 a time for shoe-box-sized packs of Mint Crisps. In second place in the Benidix league are traders from the London International Financial Futures Exchange who scoop up chocolates by the handful. "They all come in and say: 'Oooh, what a lovely smell,'" Jan Olney, the manager, says. Stockbrokers prefer Mayfair mints, fund managers go for Bittermints, equity salesmen have a definite preference for mint crisps and gilt brokers go weak at the sight of chocolate creme de menthe, she adds.

COUNTY NatWest is going to have to work harder at name awareness in the more northerly parts of Britain. Doremus & Co, a financial communications company, telephoned North West Business, a magazine in Blackpool, to book an advertisement for County. "So that's a full page ad to go into our December issue," the magazine said. Correct. "And the ad is for County Knit Wear?" No, not exactly.

CAROL LEONARD

## BUSINESS LETTERS

### Industry's unfair rating bills

From Mr Colin S. Bell

Sir, John Banham is rightly demanding a Government more in line with British industry. Could he not also demand an immediate end to the wholly iniquitous transitional phasing regulations, which require the majority of industry in the North and the Midlands to pay rates, but assessed in accordance with the new rateable values, which came into force on April 1, 1990, but in line with what they were being compelled to pay in 1989, subject only to small percentage reductions?

In some instances, current rate bills are as much as twice to three times what they should be if the uniform business rate was being charged on the new 1990 rateable values.

In many instances, the sums involved are quite enormous. As an example, we are talking about aggregate rate demands of £3 million p.a. when the

same demands ignoring transitional phasing could be as low as £1.25 million p.a. or less.

If the benefits of transitional phasing in the South of England (for all classes of business property including office blocks and departmental stores) have to be subsidised, could this not be done direct from exchequer funds without requiring industry, in other parts of the country to pay for it?

As matters stand, industry, in very many cases, is most unfairly penalised. I sometimes wonder if this is generally known by those having to pay the bills.

The ball is in your court. John Banham! Yours faithfully, COLIN S. BELL, Stuart Bell, Chartered Surveyors, Brunswick House, 16 Market Square, Westham, Kent.

### Central issue

Mr Robert Pringle, Editor, Central Banking. Sir, The best way to reduce the "awesome power" of a future Central Bank of Europe which so worried Sir Alan Walters (October 29) would be to put the central banking function itself out to competitive tender.

Central banks exist to render services to the citizens of a country. But there is no reason why these services should for ever be provided by the existing organizations called central banks. If there is political agreement on the objectives to be pursued — the provision of a stable level of prices — and on the means of achieving it through using interest rates to control the money supply, why not let other organizations bid for a

licence to deliver the service required? Specific performance measures, quality standards and penalties for under-performance could be written into the contract. Large savings in costs beckon. The administrative costs of just three of the EC's 12 central banks — those of Germany, France and Italy — are more than £2 billion a year, excluding the cost of bank note printing. There are likely to be many commercial organizations willing to provide a stripped-down central banking service in the EC for less than that. Such a contractual arrangement for managing Europe's money would have no implications at all for European political union. Yours faithfully, ROBERT PRINGLE, Editor, Central Banking, 57 Clarewood Court, W1.

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## The man in the Hathaway shirt

**A**merican men are beginning to realize that it is ridiculous to buy good suits and then spoil the effect by wearing an ordinary, mass-produced shirt. Hence the growing popularity of HATHAWAY shirts, which are in a class by themselves.

HATHAWAY shirts wear infinitely longer — a matter of years. They make you look younger and more distinguished, because of the subtle way HATHAWAY cut collars. The whole shirt is tailored more generously, and is therefore more comfortable. The tails are longer, and stay in your

trousers. The buttons are mother-of-pearl. Even the stitching has an ante-bellum elegance about it.

Above all, HATHAWAY make their shirts of remarkable fabrics, collected from the four corners of the earth — Viyella® and Aertex® from England, woolen taffeta from Scotland, Sea Island cotton from the West Indies, hand-woven madras from India, broadcloth from Manchester, linen batiste from Paris, hand-blocked silks from England, exclusive cottons from the best weavers in America. You will get a

great deal of quiet satisfaction out of wearing shirts which are in such impeccable taste.

HATHAWAY shirts are made by a small company of dedicated craftsmen in the little town of Waterville, Maine. They have been at it, man and boy, for one hundred and twenty years.

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This advertisement was created by Ophir & Muller.

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**MONEY MARKETS**

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 91.2

|                                |        |       |       |       |       |    |
|--------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----|
| <b>Three Month Sterling</b>    | Dec 91 | 89.84 | 89.86 | 89.82 | 89.85 | 14 |
| Previous open interest: 144608 | Mar 92 | 90.26 | 90.27 | 90.23 | 90.26 | 3  |
|                                | Jun 92 | 90.34 | 90.36 | 90.32 | 90.35 | 1  |
| <b>Three Mth Eurodollar</b>    | Dec 91 | 94.83 | 94.83 | 94.82 | 94.83 |    |

|                          |        |        |       |       |       |       |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Previous open interest:  | 35240  | Mar 92 | 90.94 | 90.95 | 90.92 | 90.92 |
| <b>Three Mth Euro DM</b> |        | Dec 91 | 90.46 | 90.50 | 90.47 | 90.49 |
| Previous open interest:  | 170359 | Mar 92 | 90.73 | 90.74 | 90.71 | 90.73 |
| <b>US Treasury Bond</b>  |        | Dec 91 | 99-10 | 99-15 | 99-07 | 99-10 |
| Previous open interest:  | 4586   | Mar 92 | 99-16 | 99-16 | 99-16 | 99-16 |

|                               |        |       |       |       |       |     |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| Long Gilt                     | Dec 91 | 94.22 | 94.27 | 94.11 | 94.13 | 150 |
| Previous open interest: 46494 | Mar 92 | 94.30 | 94.30 | 94.18 | 94.17 |     |
| Japanese Govt Bond            | Dec 91 | 99.67 | 99.70 | 99.58 | 99.61 |     |
|                               | Mar 92 | 99.80 | 99.80 | 99.74 | 99.74 |     |

|                               |        |       |       |       |       |    |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----|
| <b>German Govt Bond</b>       | Dec 91 | 85.40 | 85.30 | 85.31 | 85.48 | 32 |
| Previous open interest: 66133 | Mar 92 | 85.73 | 85.75 | 85.60 | 85.77 | 9  |
| <b>Three month EC</b>         | Dec 91 | 90.05 | 90.07 | 90.05 | 90.06 | 1  |
| Previous open interest: 5091  | Mar 92 | 90.39 | 90.41 | 90.39 | 90.41 | 1  |
| <b>Five Swiss Franc</b>       | Dec 91 | 90.00 | 90.00 | 90.00 | 90.00 | 1  |
| Previous open interest: 1000  | Mar 92 | 90.00 | 90.00 | 90.00 | 90.00 | 1  |

|                               |        |       |       |       |       |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| German Swiss Franc            | Dec 91 | 91.58 | 91.63 | 91.57 | 91.62 |
| Previous open interest: 23249 | Mar 92 | 91.78 | 91.84 | 91.75 | 91.82 |
| Italian Gov't Bond            | Dec 91 | 97.58 | 97.66 | 97.48 | 97.58 |
| Previous open interest: 17113 | Mar 92 | 97.58 | 97.58 | 97.68 | 97.53 |

**COMMODITIES**

the release of export in a lackluster manner trading ranges. The cocoa selling rather than any

| GNI LONDON<br>GRAIN FUTURES |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| WHEAT                       |       |
| Brent 15 day (Dec)          | 22.45 |
| Brent 15 day (Jan)          | 22.25 |
| W Texas Intermediate (Dec)  | 23.90 |
| W Texas Intermediate (Jan)  | 23.75 |

| Month | Price  | Spot CIE NW Europe (prompt delivery) |
|-------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| Now   | 117.75 | Premium Gas .15                      |
| Jan   | 121.45 | Gasoil EEC                           |
| Mar   | 124.70 | Non EEC 1H Nov                       |
| May   | 127.40 | Non EEC 1H Dec                       |

|     |           |              |           |         |
|-----|-----------|--------------|-----------|---------|
| Jan | 129.00    | 3.5 Fuel Oil | 88 (n/c)  | 229 (n) |
|     | Volume 72 | Naphting     | 219 (n/c) | 322 (n) |
| Nov | 114.05    |              |           |         |

|                  |                        |                     |
|------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Jan _____ 117.80 | Nov _____ 222.25-21.75 | Mar _____ 204.50-04 |
| Mar _____ 120.50 | Dec _____ 223.50-23.25 | Apr _____ 196.00 S  |
| May _____ 122.80 | Jan _____ 220.75-20.50 | May _____           |
| Sep _____ cong   | Feb _____ 219.25 BID   | Vol: 106            |
| Volume: 45       |                        |                     |

|                            |  |                  |  |                  |        |
|----------------------------|--|------------------|--|------------------|--------|
| HI-PRO 303A<br>(close fit) |  | Nov. 22.90-22.55 |  | Jan. 22.20-22.55 |        |
| Dec. 130.00                |  | Dec. 22.40-22.45 |  |                  | Vol. 1 |
| Feb. 133.50                |  |                  |  |                  |        |
| Apr. 133.00                |  |                  |  |                  |        |
| Jun. 119.00                |  |                  |  |                  |        |
|                            |  | <b>RIFFEX</b>    |  |                  |        |

| GNT Ltd (\$10/pt) |      |
|-------------------|------|
| High              | Low  |
| 1685              | 1685 |
| 1693              | 1690 |
| 1712              | 1709 |
| 1715              | 1700 |

Mar \_\_\_\_\_ 131.0  
Apr \_\_\_\_\_ 128.2 128.2  
May \_\_\_\_\_ 142.5  
Volume 54  
**RUBBER**

|                   |              |             |               |
|-------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| No 1 RSS Ctr (p2) | Jan          | Bid: 134.30 | Offer: 134.90 |
| Dec 53.50-52.50   | Jun          | Bid: 135.00 | Offer: 135.50 |
|                   | (5pm prices) |             | Volume: 0     |

| LONDON METAL EXCHANGE         |               |               |       |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------|
| Copper: Cde A (500000) .....  | 1347.0-1348.0 | 1338.5-1339.0 | 5885  |
| Lead (500000) .....           | 285.00-285.50 | 295.00-296.00 | 7655  |
| Zinc: Spec Hi Cde (500000) .. | 991.00-992.00 | 1011.0-1012.0 | 11967 |
| Tin (500000) .....            | 5525.0-5530.0 | 5585.0-5587.0 | 600   |
| Aluminum: Hi Cde (500000) ..  | 1124.0-1125.0 |               |       |

|               |               |       |
|---------------|---------------|-------|
| 112710-112720 | 11830-11840   | 35465 |
| 7385 0-7390.0 | 7465.0-7470.0 | 13055 |

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

Figure 1. The effect of the concentration of the *Agrobacterium* suspension on the transformation efficiency of *Agrobacterium* strains. The *Agrobacterium* strains were incubated with the plant explants for 24 h. The explants were then cultured on the selective medium. The number of explants transformed was counted. The results are the mean  $\pm$  SD of three independent experiments. \* indicates a significant difference ( $p < 0.05$ ) between the control and the treated explants.

| STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES |       |       |         |          |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|---------|----------|
| Mkt Rates for Nov 5             | Range | Close | 1 month | 3 months |

|          |                 |                 |             |             |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Madrid   | 180.78-230.79   | 248.90-249.92   | 38-58s      | 157-204ds   |
| London   | 182.38-183.20   | 182.38-183.02   | 27-47ds     | 78-114ds    |
| Milan    | 217.10-218.24   | 217.10-217.87   | 4-14s       | 34-44s      |
| Montreal | 1.9790-1.9868   | 1.9822-1.9856   | 0.51-0.31pr | 0.90-0.76pr |
| New York | 1.7670-1.7700   | 1.7690-1.7700   | 0.84-0.83pr | 2.29-2.27pr |
| Oslo     | 11.3600-11.4023 | 11.3782-11.4023 | 10-16pr     | 10-16pr     |

| OTHER STERLING RATES |                 | DOLLAR SPOT RATES |               |
|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Argentina austral*   | 17507.1-17544.6 | Australia         | 1.2755-1.2763 |
| Australia dollar     | 2.2566-2.2581   |                   |               |

|                    |                 |           |               |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|
| Hong Kong dollar   | 13.7309-13.7406 | Hong Kong | 1.0420-1.0430 |
| India rupee        | 45.45-45.85     | Hong Kong | 7.7620-7.7630 |
| Kuwait dinar KD    | 0.5035-0.5095   | Ireland   | 1.6250-1.6265 |
| Malaysia ringgit   | 4.8452-4.8534   | Italy     | 1.2320-1.2330 |
| Mexico peso        | 53.90-54.90     | Japan     | 129.72-129.82 |
| New Zealand dollar | 1.2700-1.2710   | Malaysia  | 2.7180-2.7420 |

**Barclays Bank CTS \* Lloyds Bank**

|             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| Swiss       | 5.9910-5.9960 |
| Switzerland | 1.4478-1.4485 |

**MONEY RATES (%)**

|                                       |                |                |                |                |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Starting Money Rates:                 | 107 1/2-10 1/2 | 107 1/2-10 1/2 | 107 1/2-10 1/2 | 97 1/2-10 1/2  |
| Interbank:                            | 107 1/2-10 1/2 | 107 1/2-10 1/2 | 107 1/2-10 1/2 | 107 1/2-10 1/2 |
| Overnight: open 10 1/2, close 10 1/2. |                |                |                |                |
| Local Authority Depos:                | 10 1/2         | 10 1/2         | 10 1/2         | 10 1/2         |

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Oct 31, 1991. Agreed ~~1991~~  
Nov 26, 1991 to Dec 24, 1991. Scheme I: 11.68%, Schemes II & III: 11.68%.  
Reference rate Oct 1, 1991 to Oct 31, 1991. Scheme IV & V: 10.447%.

|              |        |          |         |         |       |
|--------------|--------|----------|---------|---------|-------|
| French Franc | 2 84 2 | 9212 916 | 92 92   | 92 92   | 34 84 |
| Swiss Franc  | 94 9   | 914 9    | 912 916 | 914 916 | 94 84 |
| Yen          | 74 74  | 8 74     | 84 84   | 84 84   | 94 84 |
|              | 64 64  | 6314 64  | 64 64   | 64 64   | 8 7   |
|              |        |          |         | 6 54    | 64 54 |

Old \$83.50-\$84.50 (\$47.25-\$48.25) New \$83.25-\$84.25 (\$47.00-\$48.00)  
Platinum: \$365.50 (\$206.55) Silver: \$4.09 (\$2.30) Palladium: \$87.25 (\$49.30)

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1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.



## Jenbacher in agreed bid for Telfos

By ANGELA MACKAY

SHARES in Telfos, the locomotive and rolling stock manufacturer, soared 50p after Jenbacher, an Austrian engineering company, made an agreed cash bid valuing the battered British group at £51 million. The offer was unconditional by midday after the Austrian company said it could speak for 51 per cent.

Jenbacher is paying 115p a share — an 85 per cent premium over Monday's closing price. Yesterday's lunchtime, Telfos was quoted at 113p, compared with the year's low of 44p.

The Austrian company, which manufactures rolling stock for Austrian Federal Railways, took a 29 per cent stake in Telfos, worth £14 million, in April after the UK group said some subsidiaries were in financial difficulties.

These problems were uncovered by William Cook, the steel castings group, which bid £38 million for Telfos in January but withdrew its offer after learning of the difficulties, which called for further extraordinary provisions.

Andrew Cook, the chairman of William Cook, holds a 3 per cent stake in Telfos. Brokers said they did not believe Mr Cook had accepted Jenbacher's offer.

Since the aborted bid, Telfos's management, led by Roger Pinnington, the chairman, has been sifting through

the business, cutting back its workforce, reorganising its site at Hunslet, Leeds, and turning around its troublesome Hungarian subsidiary company, Ganz-Hunslet.

The big decision facing management was whether the company could compete with its rivals, GEC Alsthom and Asea Brown Boveri, or establish a more permanent link with another company.

Telfos's announcement three months ago of a pre-tax loss of £5.84 million for the 15 months to March 31, compared with a £5.27 million profit previously, preceded Jenbacher's overtures and helped the board to make up its mind.

Jenbacher has already helped Telfos to revive the Hungarian business and says the strong working relationship should result in a smooth takeover. Telfos's advisers, Baring Brothers, said the Austrian firm had indicated that it would like to maintain the existing management. Jenbacher has had two representatives on the Telfos board for some time.

Listed in Vienna, Jenbacher has a market capitalisation of about £82 million and is one of the biggest manufacturers of railway rolling stock in Austria. The company is ultimately controlled by Auricon, a listed Austrian industrial holding company.

## Euro-American group pays record \$10m for sequel to classic film

### Scarlett may rescue CBS from red

From PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

CBS, once the flagship American television network, is hoping that Scarlett O'Hara will rescue profits that, in the recent past, have *Gone With the Wind*. The company is part of a Euro-American consortium paying a record \$10 million to make the television sequel to the classic 1939 film.

CBS announced \$169.1 million third-quarter losses last week, largely due to writeoffs on baseball and American football contracts.

In Los Angeles last weekend, the troubled television network headed the consortium to buy the rights to the book *Scarlett*, by Alexandra Ripley, penned by the critics but which is believed to have sold five million copies worldwide. Among those beaten was Zev Braun, an independent film producer, who said he was backed by Thames Television.

The sequel will never appear on the big screen, but will be made as an eight-hour mini series by the production company that put together the successful *Lonesome Dove* series, and will be released simultaneously in America and Europe.

The deal could also significantly influence the fate of CBS, a constant rumoured bid target for Walt Disney and which recently bid \$2 billion that exclusive rights to two major American sports would prove profitable — and lost.

The book deal has been made with partners Silvio Berlusconi, the Italian tele-



Small screen team: Silvio Berlusconi (left) who joined Laurence Tisch's consortium

vision magnate, Kirch Group, the German media conglomerate, and RHI Entertainment, the American TV production company. CBS will put up two-thirds of the \$30 million production costs.

The price paid for *Scarlett* is four times higher than the previous record bid for the rights to a best seller, but Robert Halmi, chairman of

RHI, which produced *Lonesome Dove*, the 1989 ratings grabbing western, said: "The amount we are paying is idiotic. It's as close to eight figures as you can possibly get." However, he predicts CBS could use one. After delaying the news for three weeks, it finally announced a third-quarter loss on Friday.

the continual coverage on cable television of the Clarence Thomas and Anita Hill sexual harassment hearings.

Wall Street believes the broadcaster overpaid for the rights by about 30 per cent. That surprised many. Laurence Tisch, aged 68, the CBS chairman, and a member of one of America's richest families, which controls and runs Loews Corp, the tobacco insurance and hotels group, has a reputation as an economist, not a spender.

Mr Tisch, however, has also paid \$546 million for the rights to cover two winter Olympics and \$1 billion for seven years of college basketball and writeoffs already announced do not cover these contracts.

CBS shares have fallen 20 per cent in the past year from a peak of \$188.375. However, they rallied \$2.25 to \$158 on news of a romantic revival of *Scarlett* and *Rhett*.

Mr Halmi, whose production company is known for bringing big star names to the small screen, says he wants an unknown actress to play Scarlett O'Hara, first played by Vivien Leigh, at that time, another unknown.

Bidding for the rights was frantic. William Morris, the Los Angeles talent agents who conducted the auction, placed a \$2 million reserve price on the rights, but the first bid was \$3 million and within five days had tripled to just less than \$10 million.

Sir Berlusconi changed sides at the last minute. He had been bidding with ABC, CBS's television network rival.

## Yorkshire fights to keep new licence

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

SIR Derek Palmer, chairman of Yorkshire Television, has called on shareholders to reject attempts to take over their franchise by unsuccessful bid rivals White Rose Television.

Yorkshire shareholders, burdened with a £37.7 million annual bill for success in the ITV blind tender, had been asked to reject the licence in return for free shares in White Rose which believes it would then be automatically awarded the franchise.

But in a letter to shareholders Sir Derek warned that nothing could stop the ITC from re-advertising the licence, with no guarantee White Rose or Yorkshire would win second time around.

Anxiety at the size of Yorkshire's bid has caused its shares to slump to 162p, half their peak in the past year.

White Rose, which bid just £17.4 million, said it has received overwhelming support for its proposal from City institutions and Yorkshire's smaller shareholders.

But Sir Derek promised shareholders that Yorkshire's broadcasting division would remain profitable under the new franchise.

He said Yorkshire had already received proxy votes in its support from W.H. Smith and Pearson, who together control about 39 per cent of the company. Shareholders were sent proxy forms for the vote on November 20 with their letters yesterday.

## Microgen sells distributor

MICROGEN Holdings has sold the equipment, inventory and customer base of Capella Technik, its equipment and supplies business in Scandinavia, to a leading international industry supplier, for £1.4 million.

Capella Technik, part of Capella AB of Sweden, Microgen's Scandinavian subsidiary, has acted as distributor of micrographic products and supplies throughout Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Norway for several years. In the year to end-September, however, Capella Technik had a turnover of £3.14 million and contributed a loss before tax of £60,000 to Microgen's results. Microgen said: "The disposal provides Microgen with the opportunity to concentrate on its core business in Scandinavia of providing management information handling services using computer output microfilm and laser printing. This business has stood up well during the recession."

## Lloyds buys

LLOYDS Chemists is to buy Greens Pharmaceutical (Holdings), the Midlands chain of chemists shops, for £5.75 million. Allen Lloyd, the Lloyds chairman, said the 18 stores, concentrated around Coventry, fill a gap in Lloyds network and lift the group's total number of outlets to 1,054. The purchase will be mainly in cash.

## Henderson lifts interim payout by 25 per cent

By OUR CITY STAFF

HENDERSON Administration, the fund management group, is raising its interim dividend by 25 per cent after improved results in the six months to September 30.

Tight cost control and better investment performance helped to raise pre-tax profits from £8.72 million to £8.75 million. But the gain was more marked at the operating profit level, before interest charges. Operating profit rose by 22 per cent to £5.1 million, compared with £4.2 million last year.

David Backhouse, the chairman, said that though pre-tax profits advanced only marginally against those of the first half last year, they grew by 22 per cent compared with the second. The 25 per cent dividend increase, to 12.5p



Backhouse: "progress"

per share, reflected both the improved results and the board's intention to reduce the disparity between interim and final payments.

Funds under management stood at £7.7 billion at the end of September, the favourable impact of rising equity markets being offset by client losses. However, Mr Backhouse said client losses had diminished as relative investment performance had improved. "In some areas we are experiencing an encouraging net inflow of funds," he said.

The group was benefiting from reorganisation last year, particularly in terms of operating profits. Costs declined 8 per cent compared with the first half of last year thanks to firm control of overheads.

Mr Backhouse said progress in performance, firm financial markets and the prospect of a revival in consumer confidence led him to expect a steady increase in funds under management.

Revenue during the period was £21.3 million (£21.8 million); personal equity plans and private clients saw net inflows of funds. Earnings per share were 27.34 pence against 23.23p last time. Henderson shares rose 15p to 678p following the profits and dividend news.

## Bargain basement plan to make Gateway Food Giant

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

GATEWAY, the supermarket group which along with Asda is seen as the weakest of the big five chains, is converting some of its superstores into an aggressive new discount chain, Food Giant, planned to open seven days a week and create 2,000 jobs.

Gateway will open 14 Food Giant discount stores before Christmas. The group, which is owned by Isoco, the highly leveraged holding company, claims customers will be able to save up to £12 a trolley load compared with other supermarket chains.

The superstores, ranging from 30,000 to 98,000 square feet, will offer more than 10,000 fresh food and grocery

lines. Gateway says it will match the other supermarket chains on quality and style while maintaining low prices.

Six of the Food Giants opened yesterday, at Paisley and Kilmarnock in Scotland, at Sunderland, at Bridgend in South Wales, at Leyland in Lancashire and at Bedworth in Warwickshire. Five more are opening on November 12, a further two on November 19 and one on December 3. The group plans to increase the number of Food Giants in 1992. The format has been based on a pilot store at Bulwell in Nottingham which opened in August. Gateway says demand at that store has exceeded expectations with

90,000 customers in the first week and a 23 per cent increase in staff needed to cope with demand.

Jeremy Alun-Jones, retail analyst at Salomon Brothers, says that supermarkets may be entering an era when weaker competitors such as Gateway and Asda stop competing on equal terms with Sainsbury and Tesco and start discounting in order to put pressure on their competitors' margins.

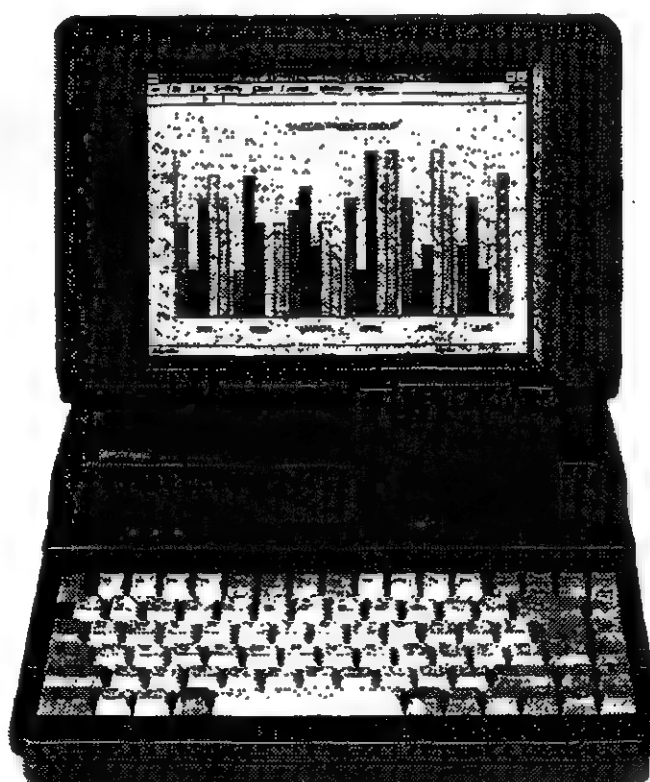
Asda's new chief executive, Archie Norman, is widely expected to unveil a discount formula for his group. Asda's £357 million rights issue which closes on Friday is expected to be well received by investors.

## Alarm at new US oil law

The American oil industry is sounding the alarm over the new US Oil Pollution Act that it is due to discuss at a Congressional hearing today. Industry representatives say the law could paralyze shipping of petroleum to America.

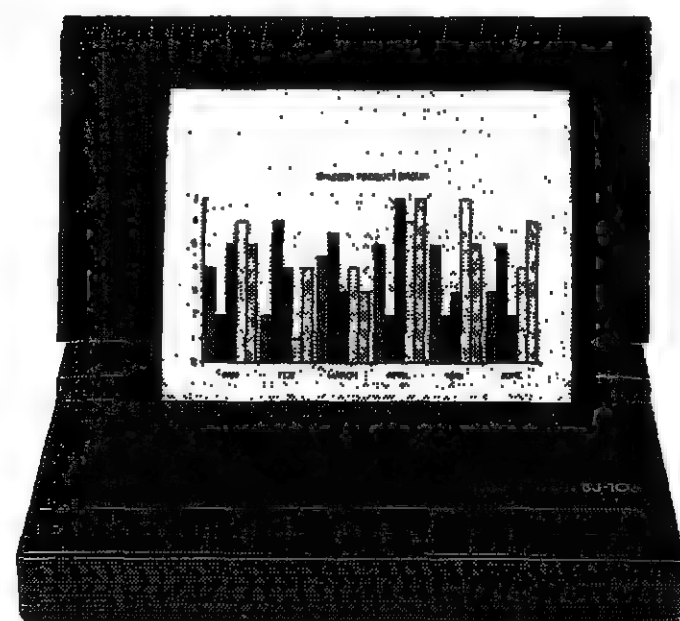
The new act will require shipping companies to insure for costs of cleaning up oil spills, but insurers are refusing to issue such guarantees.

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Commercial leader: Professor Ray Wild, Henley's principal, says: "The companies we work with are moving from being passive consumers to informed and influential clients"

## Royal seal for agent of change

Henley Management College is in a festive mood this autumn for it is celebrating the granting of a royal charter. The July announcement has prompted a wave of festivities for staff and academic associates in the splendour of Greenlands, a 14th century riverside estate near Henley-on-Thames, now the focal point of the college.

The royal boost to Henley's status makes little difference to the range of programmes and services it provides, but it puts a seal of approval on a series of initiatives designed to bring the college in line with new business thinking about management education.

"We are now market driven in our approach to management development," Professor Ray Wild, Henley's principal, says. "The companies we work with are moving from being passive consumers to informed and influential clients who

Henley Management College is celebrating gaining a royal charter, thanks to a market-driven approach, Michel Syrett says

expect our programmes to be relevant to their specific needs and to add value to their own training and development activities."

High on Henley's agenda are three criteria which companies are using to judge the quality of service they receive from business schools:

● **Internationalism** — Does the school have international teaching staff? Does it have an international student body? Do teaching materials reflect developments in countries around the world?

● **Research** — Do members of the teaching staff regularly undertake research to keep themselves up to date with the latest developments in their field? Is this research fed into graduate and executive

● **Delivery** — Are programmes flexible enough to meet the needs of busy executives? Can they be tailored to reflect developments in specific sectors or corporations?

Professor Wild has few worries about delivery. Henley's reputation in the 1980s was built on the flexibility and tailored delivery of its programmes. In 1985, the college set up a separate company, Henley Distance Learning, which now offers open learning courses in a wide variety of management topics, using the latest audio, video and computer-aided technology. The college also offers a distance learning management diploma and master of business administration programme.

Five thousand managers study the Henley MBA in 92 countries and the college has collaborative arrangements with partners in Hong Kong, and 13 countries, including Australia, Singapore, Sweden, Cyprus, Holland, Germany and the former Soviet Union.

In turn, this has provided Henley with a pool of academic tutors which it can draw on when designing and delivering programmes at Greenlands. "We are having about the same level of success as other schools in attracting overseas staff to work at Greenlands," Professor Wild says. "But the spread of our joint ventures in other countries will help us build up an associate faculty which is genuinely international."

Research is probably Henley's weakest link. Although the college is popularly associated with the Henley Centre, the prestigious research company based in London, the two organisations no longer work together. The academic staff take little time off for research and Professor Wild sees changing this as a priority. A new initiative, the Henley Research Centre, will coordinate research at the college, providing a focal point for new doctorate programmes, European projects and academic research.

Regular residential seminars help to keep members together as a group and provide a focus for new learning activities. Five thousand managers study the Henley MBA in 92 countries and the college has collaborative arrangements with partners in Hong Kong, and 13 countries, including Australia, Singapore, Sweden, Cyprus, Holland, Germany and the former Soviet Union.

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## Tailor-made training to suit

Courses are designed to fit precisely a company's needs for its employees

Like a bespoke suit, a tailored management programme fits snugly. There is nothing wrong with the off-the-peg two-piece, which will give good wear and service, but a closer look at the tailored garment will demonstrate the difference. The cut is that bit better. It clings more naturally to the body and the wearer feels more comfortable.

For more than a decade, Henley Management College has recognised the need to design and deliver carefully tailored organisational and management development programmes, ranging from one day to six months, which address the needs of managers at particular times in their careers.

In order to help companies keep at the leading edge in an increasingly tough business environment, Henley has

gathered a team of experts to help companies determine which style suits them best.

Robbie Friendship, the business development manager for corporate programmes at Henley, says: "We start off with a blank piece of paper and work in close partnership with the organisation, really getting to know what they are like and understanding their culture."

Recently, the college's company programmes division has designed tailored programmes for more than 20 companies and organisations ranging from Grand Metropolitan to English Heritage. Jane Cranwell-Ward, the director of company programmes, says: "When someone goes on an open programme, there is a possibility of the re-entry problem. This could lead to newly trained managers being like voices in the wilderness, with colleagues dismissing their new ideas as 'having been on a course'."

Ms Cranwell-Ward adds: "A more powerful way of impacting on an organisation is to develop a whole cadre of managers, who will then sup-

ply mutual support through networking when they return to the organisation. It is groups, thinking and behaving in the same way which reinforces the development training."

In 1986 the college added tailored qualification programmes to its corporate portfolio. These are based on the flexible, distance-learning Master of Business Administration (MBA) and diploma, but integrated into working activities.

Although there is a core of work that everybody has to do to be awarded an MBA, with a corporate programme it can be very much more specific to an organisation's own industry. For Shell, Henley has run special workshops on the economics of the oil industry, and environmental issues.

In the inter-company MBA and diploma programmes there is less possibility for this type of specialisation. A group of companies will sponsor four or five people each, which results in a tight consortium of about 20 participants. They benefit from being involved in a broad-based cultural and industrial mix. The business school's biggest competitor for management development is companies conducting their own training.

For this reason, Henley is starting to offer accreditation for in-company courses towards a recognised qualification such as an MBA.

Managers attending Henley courses can also develop a more strategic view of their own organisation. Ms Cranwell-Ward says: "People find it refreshing to step outside their normal workplace. We also act as an extension to the management development function, helping to change the organisation. What we have found is that most companies have increased their training to help them through the recession."

What we have found is that most companies have increased their training to help them through the recession."

What we have found is that most companies have increased their training to help them through the recession."

TIM JONES

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## Rolling programme running for life

LEADING management schools are rethinking their executive programmes to take into account the growing demand for continuous business education, particularly since it is now clear that a master of business administration degree is not going to equip managers for life (Michel Syrett writes).

Professor Keith MacMillan, the Henley deputy principal, is in charge of the biggest reform of executive education at the college since it was founded in 1945. The result, unveiled earlier this year, is a new portfolio of programmes designed to meet the development needs of senior managers throughout their careers.

The programmes are divided into three stages. Stage one, the general management programme, is aimed at man-

agers who are just about to take, or have just taken, responsibility for a business unit or large project. The learning methods have the conventional aim of broadening managers' views of different functions, and increasing their interpersonal skills.

Stage two, the strategic

management programme, is aimed at managers with at least ten years of senior management experience, who are operating at a strategic level and whose planning time horizon is likely to be over three years. The programme will concentrate on helping participants initiate and lead change.

Stage three programmes are

aimed at board-level directors. They allow senior executives to update their skills and focus on changes in industry and commerce that affect their own business. Programmes for 1992 include a series of directors' workshops and a three-day course for personnel directors.

The innovation in Henley's

new programme is not so much in their content — Henley courses are matched by many other schools — but in their modular structure. Henley will take into account diplomas and degrees obtained by participants earlier and encourage managers to move from one stage of the programme to another.



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# Doctor on the corporate call

The MBA is widely considered to be the highest qualification in management education for fast-track, rising young executives. They are typically aged between 30 and 40 and are dedicated go-getters with their eyes on a place in the boardroom. Often they are studying part-time or through open learning, and are maintaining a high profile in their careers at the same time.

Men and women with the drive and tenacity to be awarded a masters in business administration will be well equipped for top management and consultancy. There is now a pressing need for some individuals to move on a stage further — by studying for the doctor of business administration qualification.

By launching this new-style doctorate, Henley Management College is setting out to combat the shortage of well qualified and capable management developers and educators.

The DBA is the latest scheme to be introduced at the Henley Research Centre, which the college established last year to integrate its research activities and offer related academic expertise to individuals and organisations.

Professor David Birchall, the director of the development division at Henley, says traditional PhD programmes had been criticised because of the way they were taught and the relatively low pass rates.

Professor Birchall says: "We are as conscious as most business schools of the difficulty of recruiting to the faculty people with suitable backgrounds in business and education. The DBA is aimed at increasing the flow of appropriately qualified people."

The DBA programme, which will require students to have an MBA or equivalent to be eligible, is aimed at those who see their career in the development of people. Clearly, companies which have in their top echelons a senior manager, expert in assessing and developing

## An innovative doctorate has been introduced for high-flyers.

Tim Jones reports

potential, will gain a competitive edge.

Alternatively, the holder of a DBA may wish to enter the field of management education, training in the business schools, or embark on a career in consultancy.

Increasingly, the college is becoming involved in contract research, helping clients overcome particular problems. Professor Birchall is adamant that his centre will steer away from the temptation of developing a consultancy.

"We are interested in projects which are rather more

people in high-tech companies in areas of technology management.

The biggest European project is called total supply chain management. This involves researching and developing training materials for senior managers in small to medium enterprises to help them understand what strategies are being considered by larger companies. With the bigger brethren continually seeking to make their own operations more efficient such a skill can be crucial in helping to ensure survival.

The onward march of new technology — such as electronic data interchange — that enables leading companies to greatly reduce their supply networks, makes it imperative for the smaller companies to keep abreast of developments.

One project undertaken by the centre with Price Waterhouse showed that of 3,000 companies surveyed in the so-called "golden triangle" — the wedge between the M3 and M40, extending from Heathrow to Basingstoke and Oxford — only 47 per cent had an information technology strategy and only 3 per cent found measuring the benefits of IT an easy matter.

The survey indicated that the area is no longer perceived as Silicon Valley and that companies preferred to follow a tried and trusted IT line.

Another recent initiative from the Henley centre for research is the development, in conjunction with the British Computer Society, of an MBA for the so-called "hybrid manager". This rare but essential man or woman is trained to integrate established management skills with the latest IT developments.

This course will be based on Henley's highly successful MBA distance-learning programme, but participants will focus on the application of information systems.

In business, as in life, prevention of disease is always better than a costly cure. This is why, whichever school they choose, many companies in future will consider having a doctor in the house.

Professor David Birchall

innovative and which have relevance for us as well as the companies. We are not doing market research. These projects have got to feed into the development of people in the college," he says.

Apart from its contract research programmes, the centre is involved in more academic research and is currently engaged on six European projects. One of these, funded by the European Community education and technology transfer programme, is aimed at training



Global conference: Standard Chartered employees from various countries with managers Geoff Armstrong (back right) and Geoff Rogers (back left)

## Standard MBA with a difference

The new single company management programme fosters links across the world for students. Michel Syrett writes

Henley's ability to link students around the world with sophisticated computer technology was a key factor in its selection by Standard Chartered Bank to run a new and ambitious company master of business administration programme.

The Standard Chartered MBA is one of a series of programmes aimed at transforming the bank from one run predominantly by expatriates to one managed by a truly international team. Although British-owned, the bank's main presence is in Africa and Asia. Standard Chartered operates as a high street bank in many of these regions but sees its main growth in the future in providing top-grade financial services to international corporations.

Rodney Galpin, the bank's chairman and chief executive, says: "We have set ourselves the task of being the first choice of corporations and

individuals requiring finance for trade, help in managing foreign exchange and other sophisticated financial support. We shall only succeed if we employ better trained and motivated people than those of our competitors."

Eighteen managers from 12 countries will take part in the first programme, which starts this month. They range from the chief financial officer in Tokyo, Japan, and the senior strategic officer in Hong Kong to branch managers in Sidcup, Kent, and Harare, Zimbabwe, and the personal assistant to the chief executive in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Participants study at home. Each is provided with a portable personal computer to help them communicate with each other, their tutors and in-company trainers through

Henley's global computer conferencing system. Residential seminars bring the team together once a year in the United Kingdom, Kuala Lumpur and Hong Kong. In between, individuals will study together in small groups, meeting every two to three months. "The groups will operate on their own steam," Geoff Rogers, manager of management development, says.

Participants were selected from more than 100 applicants. They met for the first time last month at Henley's headquarters in Greenlands, Oxfordshire.

"Most MBA programmes are not tailor-made and often require you to spend long periods away from your place of work," Isaac Awuondo, the executive director of finance

in Kenya, says. "This programme helps us to apply what we learn to current business issues."

"We all need to upgrade our skills," Gan Peng Hoei, the treasury financial service manager at Singapore, says.

The experiment with company qualifications is controversial. London Business School and Insead, the international school at Fontainebleau, France, publicly reject the concept because participants are all drawn from the same organisation and lack the opportunity to mix with counterparts from other industries — something, they argue, that is essential in a general management course.

Roy Wild, Henley's principal, disagrees. He points out that tailored qualifications are usually developed in conjunction with large multinational companies such as Standard Chartered, which uses the programme to bring together managers from different professional backgrounds.

However, he says that running company programmes is more demanding than running open courses. "You have a commitment to the student who is the actual consumer of what we provide," he says.

Participants on the Standard Chartered MBA are required to do personal projects connected with their own work, and receive support from in-house mentors. "The projects are an important part of the programme," Geoff Armstrong, the group executive director at Standard Chartered, says. "They ensure that both the bank and the individual take away something from the programme that will benefit them in the future."

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# Master of the ITV universe?

Charles Denton  
could become  
commercial  
television's most  
powerful figure, if  
he wants to,  
Melinda  
Wittstock reports

Updating the obituary of Lord Reith, the BBC's founding father, is not the usual way for an aspiring television executive to begin his career. When, in 1964, Charles Denton went to work as an "assistant trainee production assistant", on the great man's life and times, he could not have foreseen the role he would play 27 years later in the funeral of the old-style ITV.

"Lord Reith would turn in his grave," says Mr Denton, whose efforts as the champion of Britain's 1,000 independent producers unleashed waves of structural change throughout ITV, ironically creating the all-powerful new post of ITV central scheduler for which Mr Denton has emerged the industry's clear favourite.

If he accepts the job he is almost certain to be offered next spring, Mr Denton will become one of broadcasting's biggest impresarios, with more influence over what about 20 million viewers watch each night on ITV than any of the winning companies. Although he emerged from his Reithian research a firm believer in the public service broadcasting ethic, Mr Denton is convinced Lord Reith would profoundly disapprove of the new ITV system. In 1993, when ITV executives lose their right to schedule their own programmes, it will be the central scheduler who picks and chooses from the offerings by independents as well as the 15 ITV licensees.

ANYONE looking for the perfect formula for a newspaper need go little further than the *Jewish Chronicle*. It not only knows its market, but has done so for the past 150 years. The newspaper, which will celebrate the occasion with a special issue on November 13, has a circulation touching a mere 50,000, but claims to be read by four times as many people. Considering the Jewish population of Britain is now estimated at 300,000, that is a two-thirds reach. Even in the recession, the paper is still well served with advertising — it is reputed to have more "A" and "AB" readers than almost any other paper.

The JC, as it is known in the community, is as much an institution as a newspaper. When it changed its format a few months ago, there were gasps from its



The man with power over millions: Charles Denton, the industry's favourite in the ITV scheduling stakes

*'What makes him a very special talent is not just his creative flair, but also his commercial skill'*

that is not yet defined. Just now I'm more concerned about securing new shareholders for Zenith [Carlton must reduce its 51 per cent stake to less than 15 per cent under cross-ownership rules] and expanding it than I am about the central scheduling job, which is a clear and obvious nightmare," Mr Denton says. "But it could also be enormous fun."

Managing directors from the 15 winning ITV companies, which must devise the new system by the end of next January, meet today to debate the central scheduler's job description. But they are unlikely to reach immediate agreement, evidence enough

for any aspiring central scheduler that it will be a thankless task working for 15 different bosses, each with different interests and priorities.

"He is one of the few people I know who could do the job. He knows the pulse of the public. But I don't think he should do it: it's a terrible job," says Lord (Lew) Grade, the showbusiness entrepreneur who hired and promoted Mr Denton through the ranks at ATV (now Central) and remains a good friend and mentor.

Bruce Gyngell, the TV-am chief and former ATV managing director who recommended Mr Denton's appointment as ATV's direc-

tor of programmes in 1976, says: "I have always been enormously impressed by him. He is one of the few people to have a commercial sense of what the audience wants and is not obsessed by following his own desires or the client's desires of his peers. He's also a good politician who understands how to work the ITV network system. He has the broadest-based experience of any candidate suggested for the job. But I'd be surprised if he gave up Zenith to become central scheduler. Running Zenith is infinitely better than working for 15 masters who will complain at every blip in the ratings."

Bob Phillips, the ITN chief executive, who worked with Mr Denton at Central, said: "He is admirably suited for the job. What makes him a very special talent is not just his creative flair, but also his commercial skills. He is fear-

less in taking risks on innovative programmes, but he always makes sure it pays off." Unlike most other would-be applicants for the job Mr Denton, who was heavily involved in Carlton's successful application for the Thames franchise, is not "golden handcuffed" to his employer. Golden handcuffs have already kept the other two strong candidates out of the race: a £500,000 payment has tied in Michael Grade as Channel 4 chief executive, while lucrative share options will probably secure the loyalty of Greg Dyke, the chief executive of LWT.

But Mr Denton, aged 53, an intensely private and rather self-effacing man has not ruled out the possibility of surprising his many friends in the industry. He makes it clear, however, that he would only wish to do the job if he was empowered to commission programmes as well as schedule them. "It would not be in their best interests to create a job for a bureaucrat," says Mr Denton, adding that "a bloody good contract would be needed to ensure that the central scheduler has executive decision-making power outside the ITV company's direct control. Only in this way would the schedule please the audience and the commissioning system please the independents, whom he believes will contribute more than 40 per cent of the schedule by 1994."

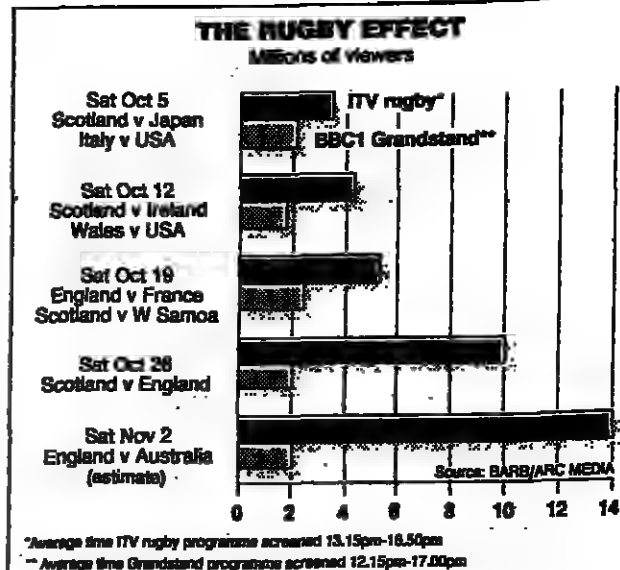
But what type of programmes would we watch on ITV if Mr Denton does take the job? Whether he is central scheduler or not, Mr Denton believes a "more commercially structured ITV schedule" will emerge, given more relaxed regulatory requirements concerning current affairs and minority programming. But Mr Denton would like to see diversity, risk-taking and a rejection of old formulas and a considerable increase in UK productions. "Acquired material — such as US imports — he says, is 'not working well enough'."

a virtual schism in the community, when the Chief Rabbi refused to allow another rabbi to take up a pulpit in a London synagogue. Until three or four years ago, the paper's masthead declared — as it had done practically from its birth in 1841 — that it was "The Organ of British Jewry". The statement was dropped by the previous editor, Geoffrey Paul. "It was outdated and I don't think the paper's primary role is to speak for the community," Mr Temko says.

If the JC has a difficulty in future it may simply be to convince its readers that it is more a newspaper than it is an institution.

MICHAEL FREEDLAND

The author is the executive editor of the *Jewish Chronicle* and is Jewish, on LBC radio



## Rugby makes its mark

The 'other' World Cup went from rather modest beginnings to world-wide success in just a month

Television audiences were slow to catch on to the rugby World Cup, but once they understood that they were being given the opportunity to watch matches "live" — and further encouraged by the involvement, with varying amounts of success, of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales — television viewership built to the levels normally only expected from the likes of the football World Cup and the FA Cup final.

"Live" football has become increasingly less available to the mass television audience — unless that is, you subscribe to satellite television. So far this autumn there has been only one live football match on ITV which involved two English teams. The match achieved an audience of only 6.1 million, despite being 'blame' for the decline in attendance at the afternoon's football league programme. The possible audience also compares favourably with last year's football World Cup final — which, one could argue, was only higher because the game, between Argentina and West Germany — was shown simultaneously on both ITV and BBC1, and in the evening.

But if rugby union is to follow the mass television audience (and the big money), how much longer will it be able to resist the increasing demands for at least some of the money to filter through to the players?

watched the afternoon match between Wales and Western Samoa. On October 9, however, 6.5 million switched on for the game between Wales and Argentina.

The next major European rugby contest will be the Five Nations Cup, due to be contested early next year. Television audiences can certainly be expected to start from a higher base, and commercial interests will adopt a much higher profile.

Meanwhile, the BBC must be gnashing its teeth that it did not secure the rights to screening the World Cup — the final, shown on ITV last Saturday, could well have attracted more than six times the size of the audience who tuned into BBC's *Grandstand* — age-mention being possibly to blame for the decline in attendance at the afternoon's football league programme. The possible audience also compares favourably with last year's football World Cup final — which, one could argue, was only higher because the game, between Argentina and West Germany — was shown simultaneously on both ITV and BBC1, and in the evening.

## A religious institution

The *Jewish Chronicle* is 150 years old — and as daringly popular as ever

readers. But readers soon adapted. The paper is published every Friday and, since Friday night ushers in the Jewish Sabbath, the presence of the paper in a house has acquired an almost religious connotation. Friday without the paper is like Friday without candles on the table and chicken soup boiling in the pot.

All that, however, says nothing about the most important of the paper's characteristics — its news-gathering and influence, the one plainly reflected by the other.

Contributors over the years have included prime ministers from Churchill to Thatcher, and practically every Israeli statesman of note. Coverage in the JC of the Dreyfus trial in Paris, and of the establishment of the State of Israel are regarded as the definitive reports of those events. Legend has it that the publication of the Balfour Declaration was timed so that it could be printed in the JC.

The editor, Ned Temko, prides himself on the fact that the JC is both an international and a local

newspaper. Sometimes it could be said to be aiming at being too controversial and confrontational on issues that deserve a more laid-back approach. Mr Temko denies the charge. "I am much more concerned that it be perceived as providing a responsible news record for the community. It should reflect and encourage a provocative airing of the concerns of the community."

That policy has got the paper into trouble more than once. Twenty-five years ago, it was held to be largely responsible for what became

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B. The success of the organisation's expansion rests on the growth of one of the UK's most highly valued employee benefits. Joining a professional and friendly team your time will be split between managing an established portfolio of accounts, and developing new business opportunities. In your twenties, you will have a proven field sales track record of at least two years coupled with the communication skills to sell a concept to Director level. Enthusiasm and tenacity are key personal attributes for success in this rounded business role.

These positions carry the opportunity of career development and offer competitive packages.

C. In addition an opportunity exists for a sales consultant to join the organisation, on a self employed basis, to sell the core benefit to major blue chip organisations. A mature candidate with a proven record of success at Director level negotiations within the UK's top organisations will ensure attractive earning potential.

TO APPLY:  
Write to the Sales Director, (stating position A, B or C), Box No. 6125, c/o The Times Newspaper, Box No. Dept, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD.

YOUR BEST OPPORTUNITY  
TO EARN £35-£65K P.A.

We are a division of the UK's leading business publications group and now have limited vacancies for top class advertising salespeople.

The ability to negotiate internationally by telephone with leading corporations will bring you tremendous performance related rewards.

In order to join us, you must be young, determined, highly articulate and able to work in London W1.

To arrange an early interview, please telephone Stephen Parry at Cornhill Publications on 071-240 1515

FOCUS

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THE COMPANY - Established in 1984, we run the highly successful on-line FOCUS database.

THE JOB - Requires initiative in intelligent editing of published information and inputting the data on computer. Training will be given.

THE APPLICANT - You will be meticulous and hard working, have a good command of written English and accurate typing. Applications from mature candidates will be welcomed.

THE SALARY - Minimum of £12,000 p.a. plus substantial benefits. Applications with CV should be sent to:

Penny Burridge  
Property Intelligence Plc  
Ingram House  
13/15 John Adam Street  
London WC2N 6LD

REPRESENTATIVE  
REQUIRED

Leading Button Merchants based in North London requires a Salesperson. Good package offered to the right person. Experience in the Clothing industry an advantage but not essential.

Driving licence needed.

No agencies. Apply in writing to: JMJ Burton Company Ltd, Unit 1A, 12 Overbury Road, London N15 6RH.

TEMPORARY FULL/PART TIME  
OPPORTUNITIES IN  
TELEPHONE SALES

We are looking for bright alert 'work returners' (preferably with previous telephone sales experience) to work on our Reception team (on specific days) in our fast moving Classified Sales Department.

Excellent rates of pay offered for working on five of Britain's best selling national newspapers, The Times, The Sunday Times, The Sun, News of the World and Today.

You will need good spelling, basic typing and good communication skills, but full training will be given.

If you think you can work in this lively fast moving environment on our busiest days then call Susan Powell on 071-782-7759/1133.

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SALES  
MANAGER/DIRECTOR

You enjoy selling and are able to motivate, control and enhance the skills of an established sales force. Experienced in selling to Mail Order and Multiples, you possess organisational and marketing abilities and understand the approach required to take on the European Challenge.

In return for your work and ability you will be well rewarded by a long established Company set on a healthy growth pattern (even in 1991!)

Based in East Anglia we distribute own brand and wholesale sports, leisure and consumer goods, and are large enough to compete, but small enough for you to make a real contribution.

Please apply with full C.V. to:-

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Managing Director  
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CHANGE OF CAREER  
OR A NEW START?

I provide specialist for unemployed through sales to international. Short experience must be relevant and above average communication skills. Age 25-35.

Normal daily routine and excellent commission and salary. Please contact me on 071-225 1454 or 071-225 1458

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ROME/MILAN  
English Language  
Instructors  
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MUST BE ENERGETIC AND WELL PRESENTED WITH STRONG CLEAR VOICES. PREF. AGE: 25-35 YRS. TRAINING OVER DYNAMIC SYSTEMS ETC. CONDOS.

TEL: 071 722 7999 AND MUST SEND C.V. + PHOTO + SAE TO: S.E.C. 28 MARJOR MANSIONS LONDON, NW5 4NB

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## CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

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071-782 7828PA/SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR  
PR AND ADVERTISING

We are a successful group of companies operating in the communications industry who seek the following.

CAMERON CHOAT AND PARTNERS,  
PUBLIC RELATIONS CONSULTANCY  
PART-TIME SENIOR PA

SAL: c.£16,000 pro rata 5 hours per day to suit

An experienced Director's Secretary wishing to take on a varied role working alongside an account team of 5 reporting to a Board Director. No shorthand but excellent WP skills and administration experience essential together with the willingness to handle a variety of tasks under pressure. From the level of experience required the position would suit age range 28+.

## ZZIP ADVERTISING

## FULL-TIME PA TO DIRECTOR

SAL: c.£13,000-£15,000 +BUPA depending on age &amp; experience

A confident experienced PA/Administrator is required, preferably with advertising or design consultancy experience, to assume responsibility for the smooth running of a busy office. The position requires excellent secretarial skills, together with the ability to cope under pressure. The successful applicant will have a genuine desire to progress within the industry. Minimum two years senior secretarial experience is essential.

Please reply in writing, including daytime telephone number to: Giselle Carbone, Personnel Manager, Carbone Limited, 125/126 Cromwell Road, London SW7 4ET. (No Agencies)

Full Steam  
£12,000

Small, successful PR Company in SW1 requires an energetic, self-motivated person to provide secretarial support to the Director. Your varied responsibilities (too numerous to list) will include organising special events and promotions, research, sending out press releases and helping with simple accounting procedures. Good typing and 1 year's secretarial experience required. Age 28-35. Please call Samantha Brander on 071-437 6032.

## HOBSTONES

Small World  
£15,000 W.I.

Two famous names have merged to create an exciting new venture. They now need a secretary with the commitment and enthusiasm to help set up and run their office. You will need flexibility and maturity to cope at all levels, combined with the experience to balance a varied work load and sufficient energy to contribute to an innovative young team. Skills 90/60/WP. French very useful. Age 24-35. Please call Sarah Stewart on 071 434 4512.

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Vite!  
£17,000Prominent Fund Managers need a secretary with fluent French (ideally mother-tongue) and shorthand. Based in the Sales and Marketing area you will support three dynamic Managers as they service Offshore Funds. With steady secretarial experience, skills of 90/60/WP and aged 25-35, please telephone Catherine Ferguson today on 071 377 8827. *Dépêchez-vous!*

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## ACME

MEMBERS AGENCY

PA £17,000

Major City Brokers seek PA for Director of their Members Agency team. A high level of secretarial skills and experience required to assist the Director. Previous Agency or insurance exp. needed. Age 25-40. 90 WPM 5/4. Superb benefits offered. Call Mrs J May 071-823 3863 88 Cannon St, London EC4.

## LEARN NEW SKILLS

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St. James's College in Kensington offers short courses in Word Processing, Keyboarding, Shorthand and more! Telephone Training Consultant: 071 373 3852 /2190/5389

## DIRECTOR'S PA

£15,000

A successful fund manager is seeking a Director's PA to assist in the running of his office. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the office and will also have excellent typing and shorthand skills. Age 25-40. Please call Patricia on 071 605 2291 C &amp; S Personnel Consultants

## SECRETARY

A top class experienced secretary, for busy international private medical practice consisting of 4 doctors, and two other secretaries. A knowledge of nursing, or previous medical secretarial experience, desirable but not essential. Handwritten replies to 3 Basil Street, SW3 1AU.

## JUNIOR SECRETARY

£5,000-10,000 + BENEFITS

This successful firm of Management Consultants based in the City are looking to recruit a bright, motivated person to work as part of the administration team. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the office and will also have excellent typing and shorthand skills. Age 25-40. Please call Angela Mortimer on 071-725 8491. CALL ANGELA MORTIMER RECRUITS ON 071-725 8491.

\*£16,000\*  
L.V. SEC

A very experienced and professional secretary to assist a busy international company. Must be confident and capable of handling a variety of tasks. 100 WPM, 5/4. Shorthand. Please call Angela Mortimer on 071 434 4512.

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P.A. to director in Interior Design Company, 25+ WPM. Shorthand, Computer Literacy essential, all office administration skills. Tel: 071-581 0174

Tune In!  
£18,000

As PA to the Finance Director of very well known media company you need a multitude of skills. A working knowledge of the City and an interest in finance is important, as is the ability to work in an environment where the pace is fast but the atmosphere is relaxed and informal. An aptitude for computers (spreadsheets etc) and the confidence to deal with everyone is essential. Skills 90/60/WP. Please telephone Virginia Wrench on 071-434 4512.

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## INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT SECRETARY

FRENCH MOTHER TONGUE

£17,500 + Bens

Organise a busy department and assist 3 managers with their travel diary and client appointments. Use your French and English shorthand. A varied department with large capital content. Ideal age 28-35 financial background essential.

For immediate interviews contact Sarah Whitson on 071-434 3205 Sarah May Associates Bilingual Division (Rec. Con).

## COMMUNITY CREME

The RNID is a voluntary organisation representing the interests of deaf, deaf blind and hard of hearing people.

PA to the Director  
of Public Affairs

London WC1

£12,340-14,098 pa

Our Director of Public Affairs needs an efficient Personal Assistant with a minimum of two years relevant experience. 50wpm typing speed and excellent interpersonal skills. You must have proven experience of working to tight deadlines and organising your own work. Responsibilities in this demanding position are varied and include the day to day administration of the Director's office and all secretarial work generated by the Director. Ref no: PA 2. Interview date: 5 December 1991.

PA/Research  
Assistant

London WC1

£12,340-14,098 pa

We are looking for a meticulous and competent PA/Research Assistant to fill this unusual new position by providing secretarial and administrative assistance to the Head of the Division and undertaking elementary research assistant duties. The successful candidate would preferably have degree level education, two years administrative, secretarial experience and the ability to work under pressure. Ref no: CO 47. Interview date: 2 December 1991.

Benefits include contributory pension scheme, subsidised lunch and 24 working days annual leave.

Interested? For an application form and further details, please contact the Personnel Department, RNID, 105 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AH, or telephone 071-383 3152 (24 hour answerphone). Please ensure you mention job reference number when requesting further information.

Closing date for both positions - 22 November 1991.

The RNID is working towards equal opportunities.

The Royal National  
Institute for the DeafROYAL POSTGRADUATE  
MEDICAL SCHOOL  
(University of London)SENIOR  
SECRETARY/PERSONAL  
ASSISTANT

Senior Secretary/Personal Assistant required to work with the Director of a busy Endocrine Unit which runs a major International Research, Teaching and Clinical Programme. Concentration person with good organisational ability and self starting nature required. The successful applicant would be responsible for managing and co-ordinating administrative, personnel arrangements and support for Research, Teaching and Clinical Activities. Good working relationships with the Laboratory Manager, Senior Scientists and Clinicians are important. The key to the post is to maintain the productivity of the Unit, in particular by enhancing the effectiveness of the Director.

This challenging post will appeal to somebody who is discrete, reliable and a good self organiser.

For the right candidate we can offer a salary between £14,633 and £16,624 including London Allowance.

Initial enquiries can be made to Lynsey Burnside on 081-740 3242. Send full CV and two references to the Personnel Office, Royal Postgraduate Medical School, DeCade Road, London W12 0NN.

We are situated close to East Acton and White City Stations and are convenient for A40.

Closing date: Monday 18 November 1991

PA - TO £17,000  
RECEPTIONIST/TYPIST

- TO £12,000

The Princess Royal Trust for Carers seeks a PA and Receptionist/typist.

The PA will need excellent organisational and administrative skills, coupled with good shorthand and audio speeds.

Please write with CV to Yvonne Quarrie, Office Manager, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, 16 Byward Street, London EC3R 5BA by Monday 11 November.

## MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Language Specialists  
FOCUS ON GERMAN

SENIOR PA

and City on Monday 12th November 1991. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day running of the office and will also have excellent typing and shorthand skills. Age 25-40. Please call Angela Mortimer on 071-725 8491.

JUNIOR RESEARCHER

A top class experienced secretary, for busy international private medical practice consisting of 4 doctors, and two other secretaries. A knowledge of nursing, or previous medical secretarial experience, desirable but not essential. Handwritten replies to 3 Basil Street, SW3 1AU.

MERROW EMPLOYMENT AGENCY

071-499 3939

73 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9DD

HAVE FRENCH/  
GERMAN ??  
WILL TRAVEL

Our client, based near Isleworth, seeks an Executive Secretary with fluent French &amp; German to assist their Chairman with his global responsibilities. You must be free to travel, when required, and have proven experience working at senior level. We do not envisage anyone under the age of 28 will have the degree of experience we are seeking. Shortlist essential. Call Lyn White on 071-439 7001

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The Secretariat Consultants

Secrétaire  
- bilingue français-  
anglais jusqu'à £25,000Joignez vous au monde chargé de fusions et d'acquisitions. Le chef de cette société internationale de la Cité recherche une secrétaire professionnelle. Ce rôle-ci exige l'engagement complet car vous devrez des besoins et prenez des décisions. Cet emploi est adapté à quelqu'un tout assuré et accoutumé à un milieu chargé. Séro-dactylo 90/60. *Language Careers Rec. Cons.* Tel: 071 491 2448EUROPA-  
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A top class experienced secretary, for busy international private medical practice consisting of 4 doctors, and two other secretaries. A knowledge of nursing, or previous medical secretarial experience, desirable but not essential. Handwritten replies to 3 Basil Street, SW3 1AU.

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## COLLIER CAMPBELL

PA/OFFICE  
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We require somebody special for this pivotal role in our small, but fantastically busy, international textile design and converting company.

You will need excellent WP, shorthand, office management skills; you will be literate and articulate and an effective communicator, thorough and disciplined; you will need excellent and experienced interpersonal skills.

You will be working specifically with our MD in a Senior PA capacity, ensuring that she receives 1st class support in all aspects of her business; you will liaise with our Chairman in New York and interact with the rest of the team here in London.

Professional loyalty, enthusiasm, drive, energy and commitment are essential qualities.

Please send a comprehensive CV marked, private and confidential with handwritten covering letter to:

Philippa Lawry, Collier Campbell Limited, Downer's Cottages, 63 Old Town, London SW4 0JQ. No Agencies.

SENIOR SECRETARY  
(1 Year Contract)

At the Independent Television Commission we are responsible for licensing and regulating Channel 3 (ITV), Channel 4 and the proposed Channel 5, as well as Cable and Satellite services. If you are a Senior Secretary who would like to work in this fascinating environment, here is your opportunity to do so.

Join us at our Headquarters in Knightsbridge to work for the Head of Licensing, who controls the planning and detailed implementation of licensing for television services.

You must have formal secretarial training followed by 3-5 years' relevant experience. Excellent word processing skills (ideally WordPerfect) are also necessary, as are integrity and the ability to deal confidently and politely with staff and contacts at all levels.

In return, we will offer you a salary of c.£13,500.

To apply, telephone for an application form between 9am - 5pm on 071- 824 7900.

Closing date for receipt of applications is 15th November 1991.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

## itc

Independent Television Commission

## PA IN ENTERTAINMENT £18K+

The Financial Director of a well-known entertainment company is seeking to recruit a reliable and competent PA. You will ideally be in your late twenties to early forties and have strong financial experience and excellent secretarial and administrative skills. This position offers an informal and interesting environment together with excellent scope for self-advancement.

## A FUTURE IN EQUITIES £20K + Benefits

A Director of a Fund Management Company based in the West End urgently seeks a PA. You must ideally be educated to A' level or degree standard and have gained experience in senior secretarial roles. A minimum of 90wpm shorthand is required. As well as the excellent salary and benefits, immediate mortgage subsidy is also offered.

## YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR £19K+

A busy, energetic entrepreneur of a systems company seeks a confident secretary with sound secretarial skills and speeds. You must be able to work efficiently in hectic, erratic and friendly environment. Clearly not suitable for the faint-hearted!

If you are interested in any of the above positions, or wish to further your career prospects, please call us now on 071 287 7788.

## ANGELA MORTIMER

Secretarial Recruitment Consultancy

Executive Assistant  
£25,000

Intellect and charm are the two qualities required to work for the Chairman of this thriving international company as his Executive Assistant.

Total involvement in the running of the company means you must be committed and free to travel overseas on business trips. This exacting and challenging job demands an analytical brain as well as a polished and approachable manner. The successful applicant will have comparable experience, preceded by a faultless track record in a support role, and live in London. Age 35-45.

Please telephone Lindsay Brandom on 071 434 4512.

## Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS











**Two studies say that demand from buyers has returned and take-up of property has improved. Christopher Warman reports**

Smaller requirements come from Danish, German and French investors; but the focus of their search has undoubtedly turned towards Germany instead of London as their first choice, and interest in the United States and Australia is now emerging.

**Remember the Marquee Club** where many of the great rock groups of the Swinging Sixties – including the Rolling Stones – cut their teeth? This six-storey office scheme is to be built on the site of the club in Wardour Street in the West End. Prepared by GMA, the London and Paris town planners and architects, the project has received planning consent from Westminster city council. The 9,000 sq m development, in the heart of London's film and media world, has been designed with a full-height glassed atrium and climber lifts. The scheme is considered suitable for an international occupier.

"Our principal concern is that the current activity in the market

Richard Saunders' September survey shows that take-up in the City of London, at 253,266 sq ft, was 66 per cent above the August figure and 55 per cent above the April-September average. The

September's significant letting were in new or high-quality second-hand accommodation, and included 38,585 sq ft at MEPC new development, Alban Gate, London Wall, let to the lawyer Dobb Lupton.

□ In one of the largest retail lettings in central London this year, Pantos has taken two of the recently completed shop units at Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, Land Securities' flagship development, for its Dillons bookshop subsidiary. The total of 12,500 sq ft, arranged on three levels, with a frontage of 69ft on to the square, has been let at £275,000 a year.



## MOTOR SPORT

# Wet weather problems have still to be solved

By NORMAN HOWELL

IT WAS a washout. That is the kindest thing that can be said of the Australian grand prix at Adelaide, the last race of what had been an exciting year in Formula One. The torrential rain made a nonsense of a day which began with the constructors' championship still to be settled.

The drivers had widely diverging views about whether the race should have been started. Ayrton Senna, the silkiest driver in the wet, felt not. Of course, that would have suited him and McLaren, since they would thus have added the constructors' title to the drivers' championship.

Yet Nigel Mansell and Riccardo Patrese, who had everything to gain from racing, agreed with Senna. Mansell, who had a swollen ankle to remind him of how his race ended — in a collision with a wall — vented his feelings in no uncertain terms.

Bernie Ecclestone, the vice-president of Fisa, the sport's governing body, believes that delaying a race, the course some say should have been

taken, serves no purpose. He thought the conditions were not as bad as some suggested and that the main problem was inadequate marshalling and stewarding.

"They should have brought out a white flag, which indicates there is a slow car on the circuit. That would have slowed everyone down, and allied with yellow flags — no overtaking — the rescue crews and marshals would have then had the time and space to clear the debris."

It also seems that when the red flag was shown, many cars drove into the pits instead of stopping at pre-designated places, and were allowed to do this by the marshals. "Don't worry, that is going to be sorted out," Ecclestone said.

The rain merely compounded the problems of the circuit. Cars do seem to shunt a lot here. Over the four days, a lot of machinery was damaged, not to speak of drivers bruised and shaken. "The problem is not the concrete wall. It's the kerbs. They are unnecessary, cars hit them and often take off, and that is when they hit the walls. Without kerbs, fewer cars would shunt," Ecclestone added.

So who decides about these kerbs? It seems that locally-appointed Fisa officials have some leeway in this matter, as they do on the issue of whether to stop a race or not. "People are not capable of handling pressure. They mix their procedures up, panic," Ecclestone said. "If a world champion waves his arms and wants to stop, they take heed. But of course he wants to stop: he's leading. The problem is that no one knows who's really in charge."



Ecclestone: against delay



Hands full: Roger Black, the world 400 metres silver medal winner, and Liz McColgan, the world 10,000 metres champion, were named Britain's track athletes of the year yesterday in awards made by the sport and sponsored by Vauxhall (David Powell writes). Dalton Grant, above right with Black, who won the European Cup high jump and set a Commonwealth record, and Tessa Sanderson, winner of the European Cup javelin, were announced as the male and female field event athletes of the year.

McColgan declined to stop off in London for the awards lunch on her way home from her victory in the New York City marathon but the hosts sent a representative to Manchester airport to intercept her and make a 6.30am presentation, which was relayed on video. "To come home to an award has topped off the weekend for me," she said.

For Mark Richardson the award he received meant a good deal more. He was surprised to be called on stage, more than two months after the event, to

receive a world championship gold medal. Richardson, aged 19, who becomes the youngest world championship gold medal winner, ran in the preliminaries of the 4 x 400 metres relay in Tokyo and received no medal at the time. Ade Mafe will also be rewarded for playing a similar role.

While McColgan has scooped the top award made both by the sport and the British Athletics Writers' Association (BAWA), Kris Akabusi beat Black to the BAWA male athlete of the year award.

Indeed, as the gangling Thribb beat a path from my door with professions of thanks, I too shed a tear for the passing of the Rugby World Cup and the television coverage. What on earth are we going to do for the next few months until the BBC takes over for the five nations championship, triple crown, grand slam, or? There'll be the video, of course, but it won't be the real thing.

The real thing was last Saturday, when England came within a hair's breadth of taking the trophy. In the end, justice was served and most people who have watched a game will be happy to accept that the cup is where it belongs: with the team which, throughout the tournament, played consistently the best and most exciting rugby.

Of course, Saturday's result had the added benefit for the Irish that we can go round suggesting (a) we are now, on a strict points analysis, the second best team in the world; (b) England were lucky not to reach us on this way to the final; and (c) did you know that David Campese's mother was called Murphy before he married?

I wrote here after the first day of the tournament, when ITV pinched its nose, held its

## Tackling a void left after all the conversions

By HENRY KELLY

AROUND midnight the other evening, a callow youth called to my door complaining that his normal organ, the satirical magazine, *Private Eye*, had rejected his latest poem which, he assured me, was a magnificent celebration of a recent important sporting event. Could I, on his behalf, see that his offering saw the light of day in the world's most famous newspaper?

Happy to assist a fellow hack, however pimply faced and forward, I offer the lines from E. Jarvis Thribb, aged 17, in thanks and all humility:

So, farewell then, Rugby World Cup. Now we have seen the last of you. Keith's mum knows the Wallabies won. Indeed ITV taught her so much. She knows you have gone Down Under. And not over the top. Which is a Rugby World Cup term.

Indeed, as the gangling Thribb beat a path from my door with professions of thanks, I too shed a tear for the passing of the Rugby World Cup and the television coverage. What on earth are we going to do for the next few months until the BBC takes over for the five nations championship, triple crown, grand slam, or? There'll be the video, of course, but it won't be the real thing.

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### SPORT ON TELEVISION

#### THE WEEK IN REVIEW

breath and jumped into the coverage of international rugby — so long the bastion of the BBC — that the new team did us proud.

I have seen nothing to cause me to change my mind but I have read bits and pieces of nonsensical nit-picking and silliness from those who wrote and spoke as if they had set out to pick holes. ITV's task was to cover 20 of the 32 games, see to it that the other 12 were covered by their colleagues in Europe, and make sure all 32 were broadcast. They did it.

One day, Wednesday, October 9, they had their own cameras at three venues: Murrayfield, Pontypool and Cardiff, and had their colleagues supply pictures from Dublin and Toulouse. At the final on Saturday, with 16 or so cameras and the world expecting them to deliver the goods, they were spot on. No outside broadcast unit in the world apart from the BBC itself could have done a better, more professional or entertaining job.

I have two minor gripes. First, why didn't the rugby authorities accept the idea of letting the television viewer have a "deferred" comment? When I suggested that three weeks ago, ITV agreed with me and Gerald Davies, in this newspaper, disagreed. Fair enough. But I did not suggest American football-style referees' announcements being broadcast to the live crowd. I wanted them only for the audience at home, only in case of a tie, only in case of a tie.

And, why was the programme of magic moments from the month of rugby broadcast on Sunday afternoon at a quarter past two? Who's been on a Sunday from the pub at that time? And if you are, do you think the women of the house, after weeks of rugby, are going to be happy to watch another hour during the roast beef and Yorkshire?

## SQUASH RACKETS

## England's team prospects brighten

By COLIN MCQUILLAN

ENGLAND'S hopes of improving on third place in next week's world team championship in Helsinki must have been boosted by results from this week's Pimm's Premier League.

In Vauxhall's 4-0 win in Norfolk, Del Harris beat David Campion in 32 minutes, for just five points, and Peter Marshall overcame John Ransome for nine points in Leekes Wizards' 3-0 home win over Mosaic Priory.

Rodney Martin, the world champion, will almost certainly

miss Helsinki with a foot tendon injury, which throws the first doubt on Australia's defence of the world team title. It means the promotion to third string of the sometimes brilliant but unpredictable Brett Martin.

The elder of the Martin brothers won at first string for L and P Lambis this week, replacing Jahangir Khan, of Pakistan, who is suffering an Achilles problem. He squeezed home 10-9 in the fifth game, on the sixth match ball, against Craig Van der Walt, the South African first string for Adidas Northern, who is rated 165

places behind Brett Martin's No. 6 world ranking. With Chris Dittmar losing to Harris in Hong Kong recently, and Chris Robertson, the Australian second string, losing to Marshall in New York, England can afford to be optimistic. Even Simon Parke, their reserve, returned to some sort of form this week, beating Simon Taylor in straight games at second string for Lambis.

Jahangir's younger compatriot, Jansher Khan, the world No. 1, tested in Buckley on the positions: Lambis, 17; Harris, 16; Parke, 15; Taylor, 14; Northern, 13; Lambis, 12; Harris, 11; Parke, 10; Taylor, 9; Northern, 8; Lambis, 7; Harris, 6; Parke, 5; Taylor, 4; Northern, 3; Lambis, 2; Harris, 1.

dropped the third game in a single hand from 2-1 before beating Rodney Eyles, the probable Australian fourth string.

The Pakistani selectors are so unsure about the availability of their leading players that they have named a provisional squad, comprising Masood Ahmed, aged 39, and three unknown youngsters.

PHIM'S PREMIER LEAGUE: First Division: Lambis, Harris, A. Mosaic, Priory; 2. Adidas Northern, L. and P. Lambis; 3. North Walsham, V. Harris; 4. A and P; 5. Harris; 6. Harris; 7. Harris; 8. Harris; 9. Harris; 10. Harris; 11. Harris; 12. Harris; 13. Harris; 14. Harris; 15. Harris; 16. Harris; 17. Harris; 18. Harris; 19. Harris; 20. Harris; 21. Harris; 22. Harris; 23. Harris; 24. Harris; 25. Harris; 26. Harris; 27. Harris; 28. Harris; 29. Harris; 30. Harris; 31. Harris; 32. Harris; 33. Harris; 34. Harris; 35. Harris; 36. Harris; 37. Harris; 38. Harris; 39. Harris; 40. Harris; 41. Harris; 42. Harris; 43. Harris; 44. Harris; 45. Harris; 46. Harris; 47. Harris; 48. Harris; 49. Harris; 50. Harris; 51. Harris; 52. Harris; 53. Harris; 54. Harris; 55. Harris; 56. Harris; 57. Harris; 58. Harris; 59. Harris; 60. Harris; 61. Harris; 62. Harris; 63. Harris; 64. Harris; 65. Harris; 66. Harris; 67. Harris; 68. Harris; 69. Harris; 70. Harris; 71. Harris; 72. Harris; 73. Harris; 74. Harris; 75. 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# Arctic Call to make happy return

ARCTIC Call can make a bright start to his season by winning the Lionel Vick Memorial Handicap Chase at Newbury today.

The eight-year-old won the corresponding race on his seasonal debut last year and returned to land the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup, staying on gamely to beat Master Bob by two lengths.

Trainer Oliver Sherwood is planning another crack at the Newbury showpiece at the end of this month, as Arctic Call attempts to become the first horse since Arkle to win the Hennessy in successive years.

After those victories, Arctic Call landed a valuable handicap at Ascot in January, giving Solidasrock a stone and beating him seven lengths, before being beaten three lengths by Cool Ground on level terms at Wincanton, but on ground softer than he prefers.

He then went to Cheltenham for the Gold Cup but lost

his chance with two serious mistakes when the race began in earnest and was pulled up. After that, he ran well below par, at Aintree, three weeks later.

Arctic Call has been prone to jumping errors, but has been helped by the sympathetic riding of Jamie Osborne, and I am confident that he will have the measure of his rivals today.

Romany King won four times last season but perhaps ran his best race in defeat when two lengths second to Foyle Fisherman in the Midway Off Plate Chase at the Cheltenham festival. However, those performances were over two-and-a-half miles.

City Entertainer, once hailed as a Gold Cup prospect, has consistently failed to live up to expectations. Although he won at Worcester for

permit holder Robert Goodall last month, that form would not seem of sufficient quality to suggest he can trouble my selection.

Of the others, Mweenish would probably prefer softer ground while Golden Minstrel appears not quite as good as he was.

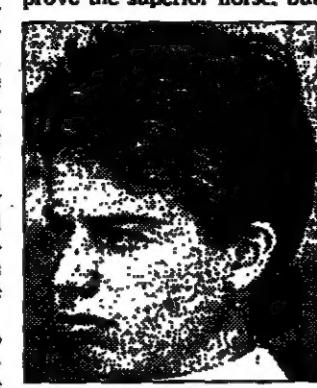
Sherwood and Osborne can follow up with Prime Display in the Tom Masson Trophy Hurdle. The five-year-old, who was a useful stayer on the Flat when trained by Paul Cole, finished last season with victories at Lingfield and Worcester.

He should have most to fear from the Martin Pipe-trained Tansour, but the Pipe stable has not been firing this week and that could make the difference.

Simon Sherwood will also have high hopes for Granvillewaterford in the Cokethorpe Novices' Chase. Granvillewaterford shaped with great

promise over hurdles last season and is reported to have jumped well when schooled over fences.

However, I prefer the chances of Le Piccolage, who jumped for fun when beating Lake Treen by 30 lengths at Ascot two weeks ago. In time, Granvillewaterford may prove the superior horse, but



Osborne double prospects at Newbury today

at this stage of the season the combination of race-fitness and experience should prove the telling factor, and Le Piccolage is my nap.

Josh Gifford is usually a trainer to follow in November and I think he should win the EBF Novices' Hurdle Qualifier with Mr Jamboree, who won a National Hunt flat race at Ascot in April when trained by Fulke Johnson Houghton. At Kelso, Ragorey, winner of both his races this season, can extend the sequence in the Jack Britton Memorial Novices' Chase. The six-year-old has looked a little backward so far and may still be on the upgrade. Again fitness may prove decisive over his main rival, Mig, from Mary Reveley's stable.

However, Mrs Reveley and stable jockey Peter Niven can continue in the fine form by landing a double with Maudslui Cross (3.30) and Terrible Gel (4.05).

## Cummings captures Melbourne Cup again

LET'S Elope survived a stewards' enquiry to land yesterday's £370,000 Melbourne Cup and give his owner, Mrs Cummings, his ninth victory. Australia's most celebrated race.

The four-year-old filly, only the second of her age and sex to win the Flemington handicap, raced away from the top of the turn under Steven King to win by two-and-a-half lengths from Shiva's Revenge.

Let's Elope then had to survive an objection from the rider of the second-place horse, Dye, also trained by Cummings. Dye claimed that Let's Elope had hampered his mount at the two-furlong marker but the protest was dismissed by the stewards.

Formerly based in New Zealand with David O'Sullivan, Let's Elope was posted her fourth straight victory, her earlier wins including the Caulfield Cup and the Melbourne Cup lead-up race, the Mackinnon Stakes, at the same course.

## Sabin Du Loir looks threat to all at Kempton

SABIN Du Loir is out to steal Desert Orchid's King George VI Chase crown. Arguably unlucky when falling in the Kempton showpiece last year, the 12-year-old demonstrated at Devon & Exeter yesterday that advancing years have failed to diminish his talents.

Twelve months ago Sabin Du Loir defeated Desert Orchid and this time he saw off Waterloo Boy, a former champion two-mile chaser, Beech Road, the 1989 champion hurdler, and the talented young Snuggly.

The victory prompted Corals to cut Sabin Du Loir from 10-1 to 7-1 for the King George. Blazing Waterloo's 3-1 favourite with Desert Orchid a 4-1 chance.

Pipe said: "We'll probably go straight to the King George but I'll have to discuss things with the owner [Brian Kilpatrick] first."

on the run-in and win by six lengths with a further ten lengths back to Beech Road.

"That was a smashing performance - a 12-year-old showing the younger ones what to do," Pipe said. "I was really pleased as the distance was a bit sharp and it was asking a lot for him to give them six. This is also a good result for Desert Orchid. It confirms it was good form when we beat him at Wincanton."

Apart from a mistake at the water, Beech Road's jumping was sound in the main on his return to fencing after a break of nearly three years. He almost lost his life on his last encounter with fences at Cheltenham on New Year's Day, 1989.

"Once he got the freshness out of him he was very good," Toby Balding said. "He was a bit erratic early on but then got the hang of them and the fences hold no fears now. We'll take him to the bottom of the pile and play it from there."

David Nicholson was satisfied with Waterloo Boy, who may have just needed the race. The eight-year-old's main target is again the Queen Mother Champion Chase. Before that he will be aimed at the Tingle Creek Chase and the Game Spirit Chase.

Young Snuggly, disappointing in his last two races, once again failed to perform to his best. He will attempt to redeem his reputation in the Tingle Creek race in which he beat Waterloo Boy and Sabin Du Loir last year.

## Desert Orchid misses Wincanton

By PAUL WHEELER

DESERT Orchid will not run in the Badger Beer Handicap Chase at Wincanton tomorrow. Garrison Savannah, the Gold Cup winner, may make his seasonal reappearance in the race.

David Elsworth, back from the United States, yesterday ruled out Wincanton but has still to decide on the final programme before the 12-year-old seeks a fifth victory in the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day.

Jenny Pitman, Garrison Savannah's trainer, is keeping her options open until the last moment. "I won't be deciding

until five minutes before declaration time," Mrs Pitman said. "I don't know what we'll be doing yet but the absence of Desert Orchid doesn't make any difference."

The eight-year-old, who held off The Fellow by a head to win the Raceday Hurdle, or to Kempton for the Boxing Day Trial Chase, or to Huntingdon. We haven't decided yet.

Similarly, no firm decision has been made about Elsworth's other star chaser, Barnbrook Again. "He's ready to run but it's just finding the right race," Hill added. "He could also go to Kempton, although they wouldn't run against each other."

Of those, all except Man O'Magic, who finished last of four at Sandown on Saturday and is not expected to run, would be carrying a stone or more than their original weight

in this limited handicap. Plans remain fluid for Desert Orchid. Hill, Elsworth's secretary, said yesterday: "He doesn't run on Thursday but he could go to Ascot next week for the Raceday Hurdle, or to Kempton for the Boxing Day Trial Chase, or to Huntingdon. We haven't decided yet."

Similarly, no firm decision has been made about Elsworth's other star chaser, Barnbrook Again. "He's ready to run but it's just finding the right race," Hill added. "He could also go to Kempton, although they wouldn't run against each other."

Of those, all except Man O'Magic, who finished last of four at Sandown on Saturday and is not expected to run, would be carrying a stone or more than their original weight

| MANDARIN            | THUNDERER                | RICHARD EVANS      |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1.00 Mr Jamboree.   | 1.00 Bas De Laine.       | 2.45 Le Piccolage. |
| 1.35 Arctic Call.   | 1.35 Arctic Call.        | 3.55 Kayfakt.      |
| 2.10 Prime Display. | 2.10 Tansour.            |                    |
| 2.45 LE PICCOLAGE   | 2.45 Granvillewaterford. |                    |
| (nap).              | 3.20 My Young Man.       |                    |
| 3.20 For The Grain. | 3.55 Kayfakt.            |                    |
| 3.55 Tremblatio.    |                          |                    |

The Times Private Handicapper's top ratings: 1.35 CITY ENTERTAINER.

### GOING: GOOD

| 1.00 EBF NOVICES HURDLE (Qualifier: 22.55s; 2m 100yd) (18 runners)           |
|--|
| 1.00 BAS DE LAINE 217 (R Bida Ltd) O Sherrwood 5-110. J Osborne 80           |
| 2.44 CAPITAL PUNISHMENT 13 (Mrs M Galt) Mrs P Walsby 5-110. B de Hean 96     |
| 3.55 COASTING 193 (R B B Owens Group) P G Biddling 5-110. J Frost 96         |
| 4.00 DENTON DOVE (Dentons Light Systems) P Biddling 4-110. S Galt 96         |
| 5.00 BRUCE'S TRIUMPH 228 (M O'Connell) Mrs J Patten 5-110. M Patten 96       |
| 6.00 HONEYWALL LAD 215 (R Wynn) G Thorne 8-110. J Rallion 96                 |
| 7.00 KILGISH'S TUDOR 312 (Mrs S Piddling) Mrs J Patten 5-110. D Gallagher 96 |
| 8.00 JOCKEY (R Liddell) C Hild 4-110. S Galt 96                              |
| 9.00 LOWICK LAD (R Langley) R Champion 4-110. S Galt 96                      |
| 10.00 MR JAMBOREE 207 (P H Jones) J Gifford 5-110. D Murphy 96               |
| 11.00 PEACEMAN 228 (P G Biddling) Mrs J Patten 5-110. J Rallion 96           |
| 12.00 ROYAL PROGRESS 202 (D C O'Sullivan) P Biddling 4-110. M Patten 96      |
| 13.00 SEE MORE INDIANS 242 (P Biddling) P Biddling 4-110. S Galt 96          |
| 14.00 MANEBA 254 (Mrs C Smith) D Nicholson 4-110. R Dunwoody 96              |
| 15.00 SUN FOLLOWER 318 (Mrs J Biddling) J Biddling 4-110. J Rallion 96       |
| 16.00 SHIRLEY EXPRESS 208 (P O'Sullivan) S Cheltenham 5-110. J Rallion 96    |

BETTING: 11-4 Mr Jamboree, 5-1 Peaceman, 5-1 Capital Punishment, 5-1 Shirley Express, 15-2 Maneba, 3-1 See More Indians, 12-1 Bas De Laine, 14-1 Honeywall Lad, 15-1 Jockey, 12-1 Lowick Lad, 14-1 Mr Jamboree, 15-1 Peaceman, 5-1 Royal Progress, 15-2 Maneba, 3-1 Sun Follower, 12-1 Shirley Express, 14-1 Tansour, 15-1 Le Piccolage, 15-1 Kayfakt, 15-1 Tremblatio, 15-1 Arctic Call, 15-1 Prime Display, 15-1 For The Grain, 15-1 Danton Dove, 15-1 Bruce's Triumph, 15-1 Honeywall Lad, 15-1 Kilgish's Tudor, 15-1 Jockey, 15-1 Lowick Lad, 15-1 Mr Jamboree, 15-1 Peaceman, 15-1 Royal Progress, 15-2 Maneba, 3-1 Sun Follower, 12-1 Shirley Express, 14-1 Tansour, 15-1 Le Piccolage, 15-1 Kayfakt, 15-1 Tremblatio, 15-1 Arctic Call, 15-1 Prime Display, 15-1 For The Grain, 15-1 Danton Dove, 15-1 Bruce's Triumph, 15-1 Honeywall Lad, 15-1 Kilgish's Tudor, 15-1 Jockey, 15-1 Lowick Lad, 15-1 Mr Jamboree, 15-1 Peaceman, 15-1 Royal Progress, 15-2 Maneba, 3-1 Sun Follower, 12-1 Shirley Express, 14-1 Tansour, 15-1 Le 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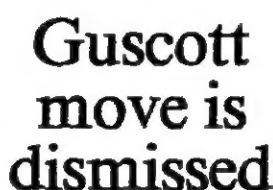


# Merson's injury an unwelcome blow to Arsenal

**Maxwell and sport, page 3**  
**Robson's task, page 43**

## Brady believes Celtic can overcome odds

On Monday, bookmakers were quoted as being prepared to offer 15-1 against Celtic winning on aggregate. The odds, however, seem to have shrunk. Last night Celtic were down to 8-1 against Newcastle, moreover, are 6-1 against to win over the 90 minutes. It seems that the bookmakers, too, believe that this tie is still wide open.

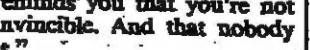


**Rob Andrew, page 42**  
**S African plans, page 42**

# Tyson lined up to meet Holyfield in spring

The WBC, which will view the meeting as a non-title

### Holyfield: new opponent:



# Rice eager to take his chance

Vijay Rana is a journalist and sports broadcaster with the BBC World Service.

## Australian IOC members refute claim

as IOC members, this sort of thing could tarnish the integrity of the Sydney bid," he added. "The system for selecting host cities may not be perfect, but the IOC's appointment of this special committee shows that it is aware of the need for the

But Berlin's bid for the 2000 Games was pointless because the matter had already been settled in favour of Sydney, despite other applications from Peking, Manchester, Brasilia and Milan. "This is not a very good way for Berlin to go about winning the bid for

**Vijay Rana** is a journalist and sports broadcaster with the BBC World Service.

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## WHAT PRICE FREEDOM?

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